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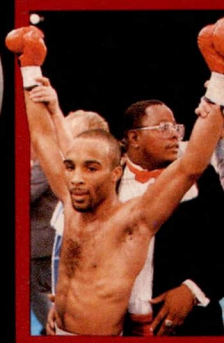

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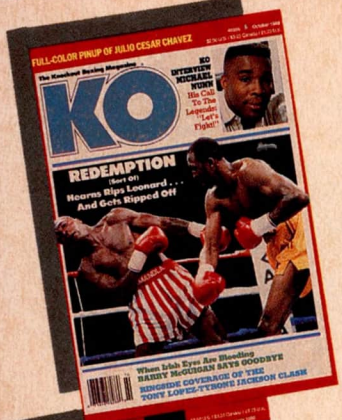

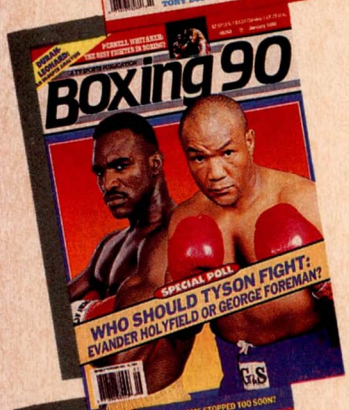

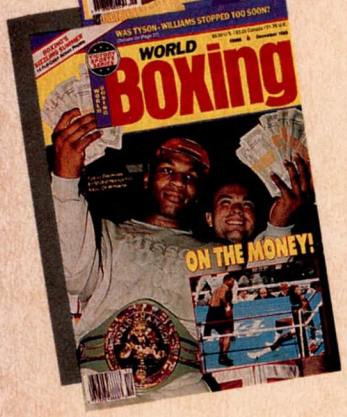

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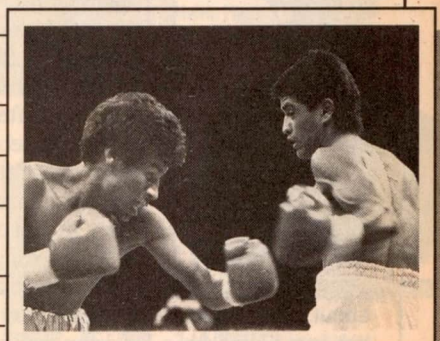

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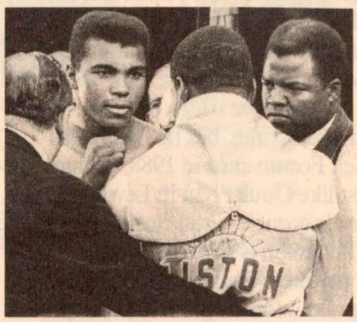

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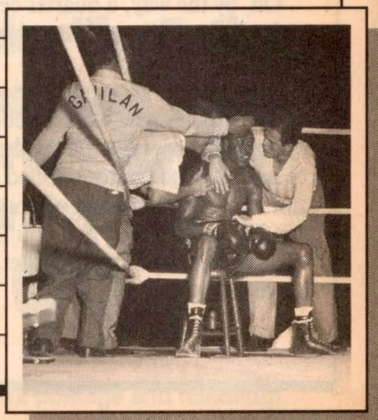

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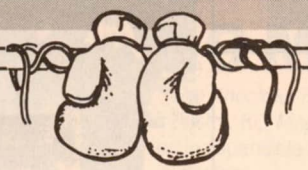
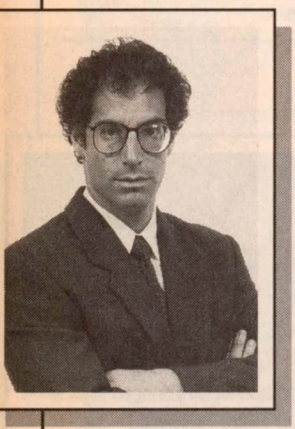


It's been 25 years since Muhammad Ali, that brutal, unforgiving bone-breaker from Louisville, blasted out timid, fragile Sonny Liston in one round in Lewiston. Do you remember where you were on Tuesday night, May 25, 1965? That question may not rate with, "Do you remember where you were when Kennedy was assassinated?" But for boxing fans, the date has a significance that the years cannot tarnish.

Ali-Liston II was the most remarkable title fight in heavyweight history. It was a closed-circuit success, but a live flop. It was banned in Boston but welcomed by a forgotten city in Maine that stuck it in a hockey rink. It was postponed when a surgeon stuck a knife into Ali's stomach, and closely scrutinized when authorities decided that Muslim defectors might be intending to do the same.



And then, of course, there was the fight itself *(see page 36)*. Was Liston really that dizzy, or was his flopping fish-out-of-water performance the worst dive in history? (Or at least until Olympian Greg Louganis hit his head on the board in Seoul.) I can't offer an eyewitness account, because, as a fourth-grader at P.S. 185 in Brooklyn, I was denied a press credential.

But I did listen to the fight on my bedroom radio, and right after it was over, I would've bet my Mickey Mantle baseball card that it had been fixed. Like the majority of those who covered the fight in Lewiston, my opinion has been changed by the evidence that has been shared over the years.

Has boxing changed since Ali-Liston II? Probably not as much as you might think. No one's talking about Lewiston as the site of a Buster Douglas-Evander Holyfield title fight, but Joey Gamache, a Lewiston native, will enjoy home cookin' before trying for Brian Mitchell's WBA junior lightweight title later this year. Hell, they might even put the fight in the skating rink.

Twenty-five years later: After discovering that the original squared circle for Ali-Liston was a wrestling ring, Angelo Dundee remains a self-proclaimed "ring freak," bouncing off the ropes and checking the width of aprons from Baltimore to Berlin. Robert Goulet waited a long time, but he finally has someone to commiserate with: Before a Felt Forum card in 1988, a singer forgot the words to the National Anthem, just like Goulet had in Lewiston. Milt Bailey, the only surviving member of Liston's corner, is still closing cuts at the Blue Horizon in Philadelphia, and Floyd Patterson is still calling Ali "Clay."

Oh, by the way, a quarter-century later my press credential requests are almost always approved. But they still don't allow fourth-graders in the press section.

***

Yet another new feature debuts this issue: *The Ring* Time Capsules is an opportunity for us to flaunt the world's most comprehensive boxing photo collection. The photos selected by Publisher Stanley Weston are more than just another celebration of nostalgia. They're rare pictures, some action, some candid, some posed, that you'll never see anywhere else. After a few months of enjoying our Time Capsules, you'll conclude that they just don't take photos like they used to.

Steve Farhood

Editor-In-Chief

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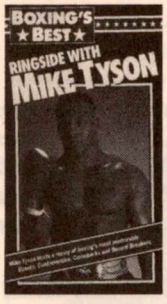

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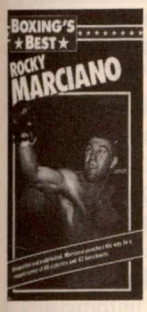

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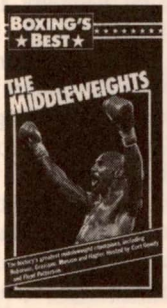

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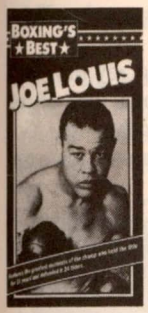

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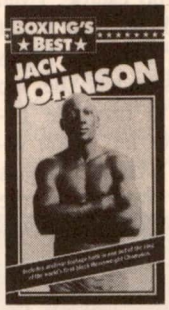

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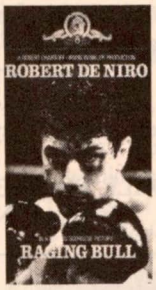

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THE DOUGLAS-TYSON SHOCKER

A note to Mike Tyson: After viewing your performance on February 11 (a day that will live in infamy), it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that there are two things you don't need in your life. One is Don King, and the other is the training team of Aaron Snowell and Jay Bright.

You were never hit so much until you joined up with Snowell and Bright. The Frank Bruno fight began to prove that. Remember the saying "If it ain't broke, don't fix it"? Well, Mike, you broke it. How about Kevin Rooney and Bill Cayton? Mike, you can be champion again, but only if you connect yourself with those who got you there in the first place. Remember, nothing good comes easy. Swallow your pride.

DALE PEEPLES
Irvington, NJ

Once upon a time, a man named Cus D'Amato found a troubled, wayward boy named Mike Tyson. He took him into his home and gave him guidance and direction. Then along came a man named Jimmy Jacobs. Together, they taught the young boy the fine points of boxing, the toughest sport there is. Tyson became the youngest heavyweight champion in history. Then D'Amato and Jacobs passed into the ages. Then along came Robin and Ruth. Then, along came Don.

The dream is over.

WES RUDOI
Seaside, CA

Buster Douglas surprised a lot of people when he manhandled a seemingly out of shape Mike Tyson, but being out of shape is no excuse. Even in the best of shape, Tyson just might be made to order for Douglas. Styles make fights, and Buster has the jab and speed that seem to befuddle Tyson. Also, Buster never let Tyson intimidate him. In fact, I think Douglas intimidated Tyson by hitting on the break, hitting after the bell, and pushing Tyson back. Maybe that's the way to beat Tyson, maybe not. But Douglas tried it, and it worked.

But don't count out Tyson. To suffer a defeat and then come back—that's the sign of a true champion.

BILL LYNAUGH
St. Paul, MN

Mike Tyson lost the heavyweight title, got knocked out, and took a beating, plain and simple. No, wait, hold on a second. Maybe I'm living in a dream world. Maybe Tyson is the heavyweight champion, cows can fly, horses talk, and everyone is conspiring to defame the WBA and WBC.

Hey, Gilberto Mendoza and Jose Sulaiman, get real! Boxing means a great deal to me, and, unfortunately, I have become accustomed to bad decisions, sad ratings, and poorly officiated bouts.

As much as I hate to say this, maybe boxing does need some kind of regulation, federal or otherwise. God knows if boxing can become more corrupt and disappointing than it is now.

STEWART B. SHUTTLEWORTH
Terra Vista, AZ

Buster Douglas may have beaten previously undefeated Mike Tyson, but reader Bill Lynaugh cautions us not to count out the former heavyweight champion.

BAD DECISIONS

I am shocked and appalled at the scoring in recent championship bouts. The first Whitaker-Ramirez bout was bad enough, but after witnessing the scoring of Paez-Dorsey and Douglas-Tyson, I'm convinced that this is not just an isolated problem, but an epidemic. The judges of these fights should never be allowed to score fights again.

I love boxing, but I can't help getting totally infuriated by this rash of awful scoring. All it does is give fuel to the anti-boxing people who believe the sport is rigged. No matter how foolish this sounds, it's hard to defend the game when ludicrous decisions are continually thrown in my face.

Is there any hope for a change forthcoming? I doubt it very much. Meanwhile, I can only feel ashamed

Jorge Paez lands a rare punch to Troy Dorsey's jaw during their IBF featherweight title fight. Paez won a highly controversial decision. Dorsey set the tempo and, round after round, forced exhausting infighting. Paez, however, rallied in the late rounds to retain the crown.

and sorry for the brave warriors who step between the ropes, fight their hearts out, and leave the ring not with a belt, but with a bitter taste in their mouths.

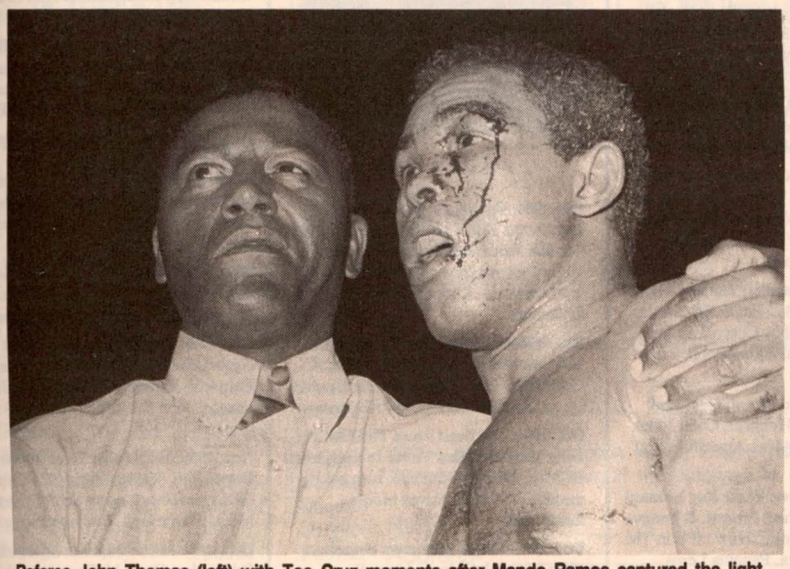
COLIN ROBERT MORSE
Vancouver, BC

NO DOUBTING THOMAS

A question only you can answer: I'm a big fan of Los Angeles referee John Thomas, a man who has distinguished himself in working dozens of title fights over the years. To the best of my knowledge, Thomas' first world title fight was the lightweight clash between Mando Ramos and Teo Cruz in February 1969, in which Ramos stopped the defending titlist in the 11th round. Am I correct?

ROGER MORRISEY
Pomona, CA

Editor's Note: The Ramos-Cruz title fight was Thomas' second title fight. The first came in September 1968, when he worked the Shozo Saijyo-Raul Rojas featherweight battle at the Coliseum in Los Angeles.

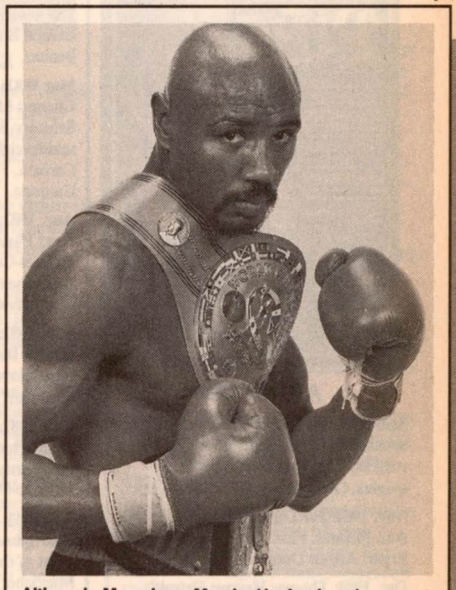


Referee John Thomas (left) with Teo Cruz moments after Mando Ramos captured the lightweight title from Cruz in February 1969. It was the second world title fight of Thomas' impressive career. The third man is a fixture of the Southern California fight scene.

HAGLER OVER MONZON

I would like to take exception with the opinions expressed by Russell Peltz, Mike Marley, and Bennie Briscoe regarding the "Battle Of The Legends" feature in *The Ring*/April 1990 pitting Marvin Hagler against Carlos Monzon. All three picked Monzon to emerge victorious, much to my chagrin.

Peltz' belief that in the top 10 of all-time middleweights, "Monzon's in the top three, and Marvin is around eight, nine, or 10," is ludicrous. Quickly, Mr. Peltz, name seven middleweights who would have defeated Hagler. I can't think of one.



Although Marvelous Marvin Hagler has been out of the ring for three years, he still elicits emotion from boxing fans across the globe.

As for Marley, his logic irritates me. He states that "Hagler lost to Sugar Ray Leonard, and there's no way that Leonard was a better middleweight than Monzon." Granted, the judges scored the Leonard-Hagler bout in favor of Sugar Ray, but we all know that Marvin really won. C'mon, Mr. Marley, don't point to the low point in Hagler's illustrious career to defend your weak argument.

Briscoe fought both men, so he *should* know best. Unfortunately, he doesn't. Sorry to disagree with you, Bennie, but on Hagler's worst day, he would decision Monzon. On his best day, The Marvelous One would do to Monzon what he did to Thomas Hearns.

And nothing the three experts said made me feel otherwise.

JAN RICHARD GORLIN
Maplewood, NJ □

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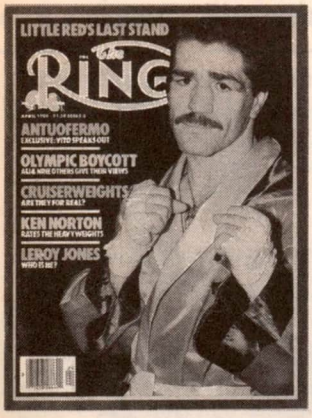


APRIL 1980

April 1980: Exclusive: Vito Antuofermo Speaks Out. Plus: Leroy Jones, cruiserweights, Ken Norton rates the heavyweights, Olympic boycott, Danny Lopez.

Nov. 1980: Joe Louis: His Life In Words And Pictures. Plus: Leo Randolph, Aaron Pryor, Arthur Donovan, Gomez-Holmes.

Dec. 1980: Thomas Hearns: Detroit's "Hit Man" Takes Aim At Duran And Leonard. Plus: Mustafa Hamsho, Duran-Leonard II, Holmes-Ali, Hagler-Minter, Pintor-Owen, Sanchez-Ford.

Jan. 1981: Gentlemen Gerry Cooney: White Hope Or White Hype? Plus: Larry Holmes, Watt-O'Grady, Spinks-Lopez, Weaver-Coetzee, 10 greatest fights ever.

Feb. 1981: DeNiro As LaMotta: How 'Raging' Is The 'Bull'? Plus: Leonard-Duran II, Victor Galindez, Jeff Chandler, Eddie Mustafa Muhammad.

April 1981: Marvelous Marvin Hagler: Boxing's New Super Hero. Plus: MAPSCAM, Hagler-Obel I, Chandler-Lujan, Jaime Garza, Hamsho-Parker.

May 1981: John Tate: How Far Down is Down? Plus: The worst champs, Floyd Patterson, Boza-Edwards-Limon.

Aug. 1981: Wilfred Benitez: Triple Crown Champ. Plus: Alexis Arguello, Henry Armstrong, Robert Fitzsimmons, Barney Ross, Roberto Duran, Larry Holmes, Benitez-Hope.

Sept. 1981: Leonard-Hearns Program. Plus: *Ring* belt poster of Leonard-Hearns, Yaqui Lopez, Pipino Cuevas, Mickey Duff, Leonard-Kalule, Alexis Arguello.

Oct. 1981: (104-Page Issue)—Holmes-Cooney: Is It Is Or Is It Ain't? Plus: Who's who?, Rocky Graziano, Larry Holmes pinup, hardest hitting heavyweights, pound-for-pound best, Spinks-Mustafa Muhammad.

Nov. 1981: Salvador Sanchez: Boxing's New Conquistador. Plus: Alexis Arguello pinup, Latino boxers, Leonard-Hearns I, Sanchez-Gomez.

Feb. 1982: Holmes-Cooney Program. Plus: Dwight Braxton pinup, Irish fighters, Muhammad Ali, Pedroza-Ballas.

March 1982: (100-Page Year-End Special)—Sanchez & Leonard: Fighters Of The Year. Plus: Jeff Chandler pinup, Dwight Braxton, Navarette-Choi, Wilfred Benitez.

May 1982: Marvin Hagler: Is He The Greatest Middleweight Champ Ever? Plus: Salvador Sanchez pinup, great middlweight fights, southpaws, Primo Carnera, Fletcher-Braxton, Prudencio Cardona.

Aug. 1982: Cooney: Is He The Real McCoy? Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard pinup, Holmes-Cooney coverage, Howard Davis, British heavyweights, Larry Holmes, Limon-Navarette.

Sept. 1982: Leon Spinks: Boxing's Prodigal Son Returns To The Cruiserweights. Plus: Marvin Hagler, Sanchez-Nelson, Max Baer, Milton McCrory.

Nov. 1982: Special Pryor-Arguello Program. Plus: Earnie Shavers, Robeto Duran, Henry Armstrong, Gerry Cooney, LaPorte-Miranda.

Jan. 1983: Dwight Braxton: "How I Will Beat Spinks." Plus: Pryor-Arguello—Fight of the Year, Frank Fletcher, Rocky Marciano, Curry-Starling I, Hagler-Obel II.

Feb. 1983: Michael Dokes: Tainted Champion? Plus: Howard Cosell, Chacon-Limon, Mickey Walker, Ray Mancini.

March 1983: (104-Page Year-End Special)—Larry Holmes: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Donald Curry, Milton McCrory, history of featherweights.

April 1983: Randall "Tex" Cobb: Not Just Another Pretty Face. Plus: Hector Camacho, Hall of Fame (Monzon, Foster, Burley), Stanley Ketchel, Duran-Cuevas, Wilford Scypion.

May 1983: Michael Spinks Wins It All. Plus: Spinks-Braxton color, Bob Arum, Marvin Hagler, Collins-LaPaglia.

June 1983: What Now For Ray Mancini? Plus: Lupe Pintor, Tony Ayala, Mancini-Arguello color, Holmes-Teofilo Stevenson?, Jersey Joe Walcott, Jung-Koo Chang, Frazier-Broad.

July 1983: Jeff Chandler: The Best Fighter Nobody Knows. Plus: Sugar Ray Seales, Jack Dempsey, Bobby Chacon, Dokes-Weaver II, Holmes-Witherspoon, Paul Berlenbach.

Aug. 1983: Roberto Duran: One 'Mas' Time! Plus: After Holmes?, Colin Jones, Jimmy Montoya, Alexis Arguello, Billy Petrolle.

Sept. 1983: Exclusive: Sugar Ray Leonard Talks About His Past, Present, & Future. Plus: Hagler & Duran: 'How I'll Win The Fight,' Jaime Garza, Panama Lewis, Spinks-Mustafa-Muhammad, Bobo Olson, Jack Johnson, Mustafa Hamsho, Muniz-Chandler.

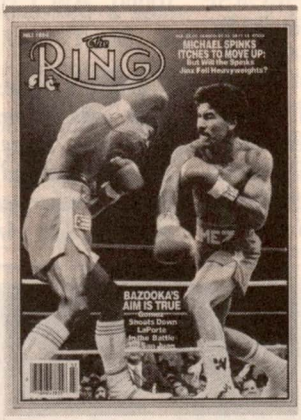
Oct. 1983: (104-Page Special)—Hagler-Duran Program. Plus: Best fighter poll, Who's who?, Jose Sulaiman, Billy McNeece, Marty Servo, Milton McCory, Collin Jones.

Nov. 1983: Gerrie Coetzee: The New Heavyweight Champ Sets His Sights On Holmes. Plus: Alexis Arguello, Murray Sutherland, James J. Braddock, Muhammad Ali.

Dec. 1983: Greg Page: 'Holmes Will Never Fight Me—He's A Chicken-Livered Coward!' Plus: Hagler-Duran, Tim Witherspoon, Jake LaMotta, Cedeno-Magri, "Winners" by Leroy Neiman.

Feb. 1984: Don King Talks And Talks And Talks. Plus: Leonard's return, Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, 1983 quotes, Marvin Hagler, Johnny Bratton, Gerald Hayes, Hagler-Duran color.

June 1984: Bumphus, Lockridge, Duva: 'That Championship Year.' Plus: Ferdie Pacheco, Harry Arroyo, Holmes-Coetzee preview, Pipino Cuevas, Aaron Pryor, Battling Nelson-Joe Gans, Witherspoon-Page.



JULY 1984

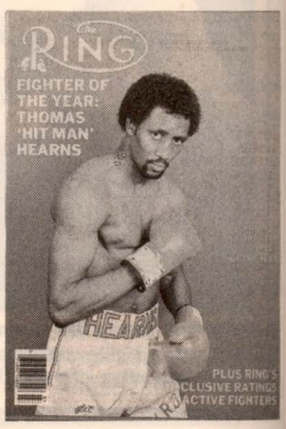
July 1984: Bazooka's Aim Is True: Gomez Shoots Down LaPorte In The Battle For San Juan. Plus: Michael Spinks, Vinny Pazienza, Tyrone Crawley, Leonard's comback, Chandler-Sandoval, Hagler-Roldan.

Sept. 1984: The Scramble For Bramble: Livingstone's Wrapped Up In Being A Champion. Plus: Hearns-Duran, Rosario-Davis, Aaron Pryor, Eusebio Pedroza.

Oct. 1984: The Beast From The East: John Mugabi Strikes Terror In The Hearts Of Men. Plus: Bill Costello, nine gold medals, Don King, Davey Moore, memorabilia.

Dec. 1984: Hagler Hammers Hamsho. Plus: Barry McGuigan, James Broad, boxing's best, Julian Jackson, Thomas-Witherspoon.

Jan. 1985: Holmes-Bonecrusher Color Action. Plus: Gerry Cooney, pro debuts (Breland, Hill, Taylor, Biggs, Whitaker, Holyfield), Santos-Medal, Meza-Garza.



MARCH 1985

Feb. 1985: Showdown: Page Clobbers Coetzee For WBA Title. Plus: Larry Holmes, lightweights, Cooney-Chaplin, McCallum-Minchillo.

March 1985: Fighter Of The Year: Thomas 'Hit Man' Hearns. Plus: Year-end awards, Darrell-Estrada, Nelson-Gomez, Arroyo-Alli.

April 1985: Special Hagler-Hearns Program. Plus: British fighters, Hector Camacho, Donald Curry, British fighters, Sonny Liston.

May 1985: The Rematch In Reno: Bramble-Mancini Color Action. Plus: Donald Curry, Aaron Pryor, McGuigan-LaPorte.

June 1985: Holmes' Last Hurrah? Holmes-Bey Color Action. Plus: Holmes vs. all-time greats, Paul-Arroyo, 1901.

July 1985: Marvelous Marvin! Are There Any More Mountains To Climb? Plus: Hagler-Hearns, 10 greatest first rounds, Tyson (2-0) rates the heavys, Tubbs-Page.

Aug. 1985: Seven Elected To The Ring Hall Of Fame (Jose Napoles, Jake LaMotta, Panama Al Brown, Manuel Ortiz, Young Stribling, Thomas Jackling, Lord Lonsdale). Plus: Spinks-Holmes preview, Barry McGuigan.

Sept. 1985: Barry McGuigan: Can He Be Boxing's Savior? Plus: Carl Williams, Thomas-Weaver, Chavez-Mayweather I.

Oct. 1985: The "Macho Man" Rides Again. Plus: Dwight Muhammad Qawi, Camacho-Ramirez, Berbick-Green, Jeff Fenech, John E. Garcia, McCallum-Braxton.

Nov. 1985: Will Hagler Feast On The Beast? Plus: Hagler-Mugabi & Hearns-Shuler previews, Lonnie Smith, Pintor-Meza, Chuck Hull, Benitez-Moley.

Dec. 1985: Michael Spinks: Against All Odds. Plus: Curry-McCrory preview, McGuigan-Taylor, Alexis Arguello, Michael Olajide, Chavez-Pratchett.

Jan. 1986: In Search Of A Heavyweight Champion. Plus: Azumah Nelson, Arguello-Jefferson, Olympic update, Chicago boxing.

Feb. 1986: Mike Tyson: The Legacy Of Cus D'Amato. Plus: Rocky IV, Curry-McCrory, Teddy Mann, Kenny Lane.

March 1986: Co-Fighters Of The Year: Marvelous Marvin Hagler & Donald Curry. Plus: Special year-end awards, 1985 boxing diary, annual ratings, Evander Holyfield, Fenech-Coffee.

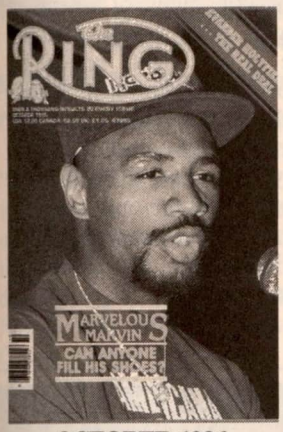
April 1986: Witherspoon Tames Tubbs For WBA Title. Plus: Dream fights, Greg Haugen, Tyrell Biggs, Mark Breland, Paul Gonzales, HBO tourney, Witherspoon-Tubbs, Frank Warren, Gene Tunney.

May 1986: Marvelous Marvin Tames The Beast. Plus: Hearns-Shuler, Mike Tyson, Bramble-Crawley, Sandoval-Canizales, Marvin Johnson, McGuigan-Cabrera, Arguello-Costello, Weaver-Williams.

June 1986: Barry's Back In The USA: McGuigan Breathes A Breath Of Fresh Air Into American Fight Scene. Plus: Bobby Czyz, Robbie Sims, Qawi-Holyfield preview, Berbick-Thomas, Bruno-Coetzee.

Aug. 1986: Is Sugar Ray Still Sweet? Plus: Lloyd Honeyghan, Tyson-Green, Cooney-Gregg, Hall of Fame (Eder Jofre, Benny Lynch, Bud Taylor, Sam McVey, Nat Langham, John Chambers), Bernardo Pinango.

Sept. 1986: Gerry Cooney vs. Mike Tyson: Who Would Win? Plus: Cruz-McGuigan, Hearns-Medal, Tyson-Gross, Sims-Duran.



OCTOBER 1986

Oct. 1986: Marvelous Marvin: Can Anyone Fill His Shoes? Plus: Tim Witherspoon, Holyfield-Qawi, Panama's champions, Frankie Duarte, Tyson-Frazier.

Nov. 1986: Mike Tyson: History In The Making. Plus: Tyson-Berbick preview, Spinks, Paul Gonzales, Bobby Czyz, Tyson-Ratliff, McCallum-Jackson.

Dec. 1986: The Weekend That Shook Up The Boxing World. Plus: Rosario-Bramble, Honeyghan-Curry, Butch Lewis, Buster Drayton, Johnson-Emebe, Raging Bull II.

March 1987: Mike Tyson: Can Anybody Beat Him? Plus: Dennis Andries, Richard Steele, Tyson-Berbick, Rickey Parkey.

April 1987: Hagler-Leonard Souvenir Issue. Plus: Czyz, Orlando Canizales, Mugabi-Thomas, Biggs-Snipes, Chavez-LaPorte, Bonecrusher-Witherspoon II, Haugen-Paul.

May 1987: Mike Tyson: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Year-end awards, *The Ring* annual ratings, Louie Espinoza, Herol Graham.

June 1987: Vinny Paz: Phenom Or Phony? Plus: Tyson-Bonecrusher, Mark Breland, Brian Mitchell, Evander Holyfield, Czyz-Edwards, Olajide-Lee, Curry-Montgomery.

July 1987: Spinks-Cooney: The Fight That Refused To Die. Plus: The new *Ring* ratings, Terry Marsh, George Foreman's return, Khaosai Galaxy, Hearns-Andries, Whitaker-Mayweather.

Aug. 1987: Sugar Ray: Still In Style. Plus: Leonard-Hagler, all-time heavyweight ratings, Czyz-MacDonald, Camacho-Davis.

Sept. 1987: Michael Olajide: The Look Of The Future? Plus: Tyson-Thomas, Jeff Fenech, middleweight muddle, Tsuyoshi Hamada, Juan Roldan, Harold Knight.

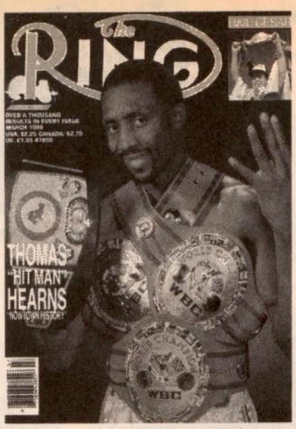
Oct. 1987: Special Hall Of Fame Issue: Ali Elected Unanimously! Plus: Hall of Fame directory, Spinks-Cooney, Pazienza-Haugen II, Aaron Pryor.

Nov. 1987: Tyson Wins Heavyweight Triple-Crown. Plus: Triple-crown champs, Matthew Hilton, Carlos Monzon interview, McCallum-Curry.

Dec. 1987: Spinks & Lewis: Boxing's Beastie Boys. Plus: Starling-Breland, Ramzi Hassan, Honeyghan-Hatcher, Holyfield-Ocasio.

Jan. 1988: Darrin Van Horn—Million Dollar Baby? Plus: Evander Holyfield, Hill-Stewart, Juan Coggi, great hookers, AIDS.

Feb. 1988: Gold Outshines Glitter: Tate Tops Olajide. Plus: Tyson-Biggs, Kalambay-Barkley, Hearns-Roldan, fights we'd like to see.



MARCH 1988

March 1988: Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns: "Now I Own History." Plus: Chavez-Rosario, Roger Mayweather, Rocky Lockridge, bleeders, Bruno-Bugner, Fenech-Zarate, Tony Burton.

April 1988: Evander Holyfield: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Special year-end awards, Holyfield-Qawi II, Foreman-Sekorski, Hill-Angulo.

May 1988: Goorge Foreman: "I Can Beat Tyson." Plus: Tyson-Holmes, Jesse Benavides, Showtime, no-knockout artists.

June 1988: Sugar Ray Robinson Still The Sweetest! Plus: All-time middleweight ratings, Larry Holmes, Louie Lomeli, McGirt-Warren II, Haugen-Pazienza II.

July 1988: Special Tyson-Spinks Preview Issue. Plus: Donald Trump interview, Honeyghan-Vaca II, Foreman-Qawi, Barkley-Olajide.

Aug. 1988: Julio Cesar Chavez: The Kid From Culiacan. Plus: Holyfield, bad decisions, Lockridge-Knight, Starling-Breland II, Brown-Trice, Haugen-Santana.

Sept. 1988: Sugar Ray: Here He Comes Again! Plus: Andries-Czyz, Kid Chocolate, Don Dunphy, Don Lalonde, Andries-Czyz.

Oct. 1988: Mike Tyson: What Price Glory? Plus: Tyson-Spinks, Hearns-Barkley, Davey Moore.

Nov. 1988: Donny Lalonde: "Sugar Ray is Out Of His Mind!" Plus: Hall of Fame selections (Carlos Ortiz, Joe Brown, Billy Graham, Cus D'Amato, Jimmy Jacobs), Nunn-Tate, Molinares-Starling, Honeyghan-Chung, '88 Olympians.

Dec. 1988: Mike Tyson Special. Plus: Leonard-Lalonde preview, Barry McGuigan, alphabet wars, Jeff Fenech, Mauro Mina, Meldrick Taylor.

Jan. 1989: Meldrick Taylor: Philly Phenom. Plus: Marvin Hagler, Alex Wallau, Taylor-McGirt, Olympic results.

Feb. 1989: Julio Cesar Chavez. Plus: Chavez-Ramirez, all-time lightweight ratings, Louie Espinoza, Simon Brown, Roger Mayweather.

March 1989: Hearns Next For Sugar Ray? Plus: Leonard-Lalonde, Prince Charles Williams, Hearns-Kinchen, Nunn-Roldan, Hines-Hilton.

May 1989: The Best Of '88. Plus: Year-end awards, Evander Holyfield, Pryor-Morales, Fenech-Navarro.

Jan. 1990: Boxing's Bible Reborn At Age 68. Plus: George Foreman (color), Mike Tyson, Carlos Monzon, Duran-Leonard III, LaMotta-Dauthuille.

Feb. 1990: Riddick Bowe/Ray Mercer Target . . . Tyson: Plus: The Olympians as pros (color), Bobby Czyz, Gerry Cooney, Wepner-Liston, Bobo Olson.

March 1990: The '80s—Great Fights, Great Fighters (color). Plus: Jeff Harding, Evander Holyfield, Pete Rademacher, Sharkey-McCoy.

April 1990: Pernell Whitaker—*The Ring* Fighter Of The Year (color). Plus: Chavez-Taylor preview, Leonard-Duran III, Tiger Flowers, Muhammad Ali.

May 1990: Big George Talks Tough! Plus: Archie Moore, Moore-Marciano (color), Grudge Wars, Kid Berg, Ike Williams-Alexis Arguello.

JUNE 1990: Buster! How James Douglas Shocked The World. Plus: Michael Moorer, Camacho-Paez, Tommy Farr, Excuses, Dick Tiger, Ruben Olivares-Jeff Chandler.

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ROUND ONE

ALPHABET INDIGESTION: With NBC's boxing coordinator Kevin Monaghan as umpire, two strikes and the WBA was out.

The network had signed to televise the WBA junior featherweight title fight between champion Jesus Salud and capable contender Jesse Benavides for March 25. But the WBA told him that Salud had to next defend against its number one-rated contender, Luis Mendoza of Colombia, or be stripped. (Mendoza has fought just once since losing a unanimous decision to then champion Juan Jose Estrada last July.)

Strike one!

Then, according to Monaghan, the WBA said that unless NBC accepted Mendoza, it would not sanction the featherweight title bout between Antonio Esparragoza and Steve Cruz, also scheduled to be televised by NBC. The reason? Champion Esparragoza had to next defend against unproven but top-rated contender Chan Mok Park of South Korea.

Strike two!

"If they pull that Noriega move," Monaghan told *The Ring*, "I'll come out publicly and say I'll never televise another WBA fight."

He kept his word. One day later, Monaghan told the press, "We are ceasing to recognize the WBA."

In response, James J. Binns, the WBA's American representative, said, "The WBA hasn't tried to force anybody on [NBC]. The WBA is simply complying with its rules and regulations. Steve Cruz is not ranked [in the WBA's top 10]. There's a great deal of sentiment that Steve Cruz shouldn't even be fighting. He's been stopped in many of his last fights. [Cruz, who has four career losses, hasn't been stopped since losing to Esparragoza in 1987.] Antonio Esparragoza is a great fighter. I don't think NBC should be serving up sacrificial lambs.

"And when Salud fought for the title against Estrada, he did so with the understanding that should he win, he would then fight the highest-rated available contender. NBC's temper tantrum will have no effect on us whatsoever. When the time comes that a TV network can decide affirmitively what fights can be put on, we're all in trouble."

THE DEATH OF GYPSY JOE: Gypsy Joe Harris, one of the most colorful fighters of the '60s, died at age 44 of heart problems in his native Philadelphia. Harris, whose only loss in 25 bouts was to Emile Griffith, was forced to retire in 1969, when it was discovered that he had been blind in his right eye since age 11.

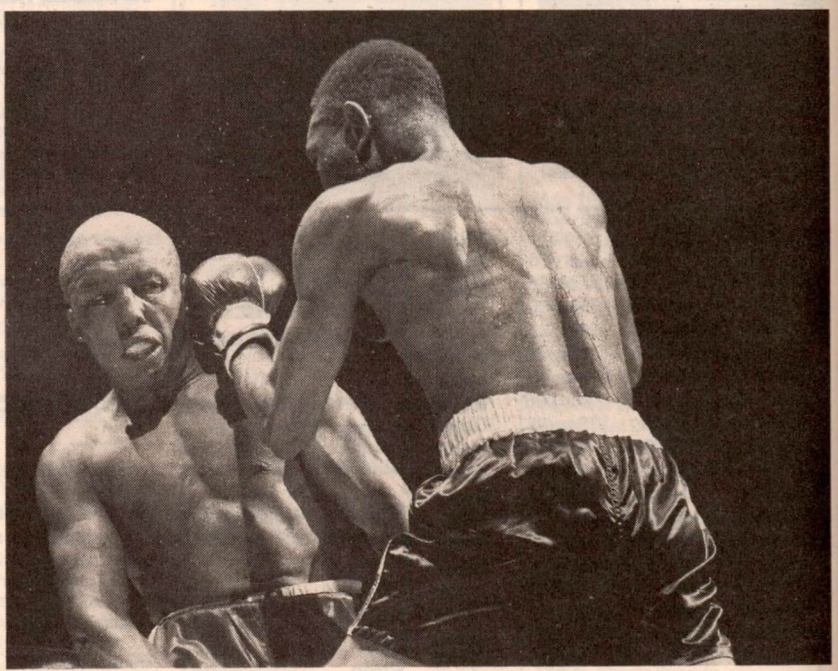
The highlight of Harris' abbreviated career came in March 1967, when he outpointed reigning welterweight king Curtis Cokes in a non-title 10-rounder in New York City.

"They say I spend all my time shooting pool, hanging out in bars, dancing all night, and playing with women all day," Harris once said. "I must be one helluva man to do all that and still win fights with only one bloodshot eye."

A FIGHTER IN NEED: Former light heavyweight contender Eddie Cotton, who twice fought for the world crown, is suffering from a potentially fatal liver disease. A benefit was thrown on February 16 in Seattle to raise money to help the 62-year-old Cotton with his medical expenses.

At the benefit, films of several of Cotton's fights were shown. Unfortunately, one of the fights unavailable for screening was Cotton's August 1966 title challenge of champion Jose Torres. Cotton, a 39-year-old contender with only four wins in his previous 11 efforts, surprised the experts by extending Torres. The champion retained the crown by a close but unanimous 15-round decision.

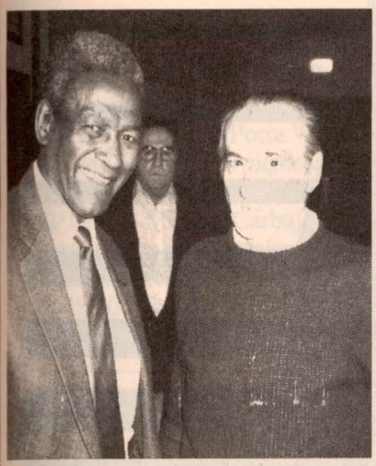
"In the ring," Cotton said at the



Gypsy Joe Harris vs. welterweight king Curtis Cokes

benefit, "[Torres] said to me, 'I have been beaten by a great champion.' Those were his exact words."

Cotton, who fought from 1947 to 1967 and compiled a mark of 58-23-2, has been undergoing tests at the University of Washington Medical Center to see if he's an appropriate candidate for a liver transplant.—**Bill Tuthill**



Cotton & handler Jos Vaccarella

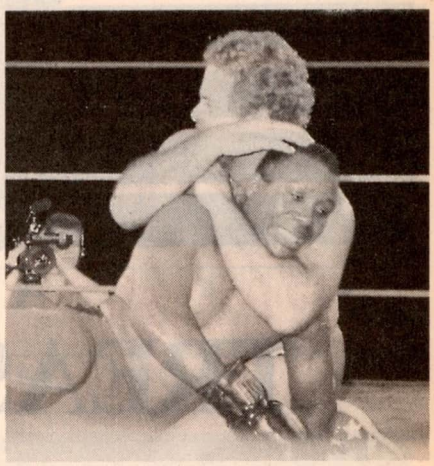
Dr. "Hackie" Reitman gets pounded for charity

THE MEDIA JINX: Before his fourth pro fight, Dr. Harold "Hackie" Reitman was the subject of feature stories in *USA Today, The Miami Herald,* and several other publications. The 5'11", 212-pound orthopedic surgeon, a resident of Plantation, Florida, was a 1971 New England Golden Gloves champion. He's 39 years old, but his seven-days-a-week training regimen—15 rounds at the gym followed by three to five miles of road work—suggests a much younger man.

On February 24 in Boca Raton, Florida, however, Hackie was hacked in two rounds by Miami's Vale Payton, who was making his pro debut. As is his usual practice, Reitman donated his entire purse to a children's charity.

Given the result of his outing against Payton, Hackie won't be joining George Foreman and Roberto Duran at the upper level of boxing's Seniors Tour. But that's okay. Foreman and Duran can't operate a laser that vaporizes damaged tissue, either.

OUTSIDE THE ROPES: You can no longer find that inspirational statue of Rocky Balboa atop the stairs of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The new home for the 8'6" bronze casting is the Spectrum . . . Heavyweight Mitch Green will serve six months in jail and 500 hours of community service as a result of his New York City conviction for driving while intoxicated and possessing PCP (angel dust) . . . Two amateur boxers died within four days while training for the U.S. amateur championships at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Sean Lee, a 139-pounder from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, died of cardiac arrest while jogging. Four days earlier, Tyrone Jones, the Navy's 147-pound champion, died after surgery to remove a blood clot caused when he fell off a ring apron and struck his head . . . Lana Shabazz, the longtime personal cook for Muhammad Ali, died at age 62 in New York City . . . According to the California Athletic Commission, streaking featherweight Edward "Pee Wee" Parker tested positive for cocaine after his decision victory over Refugio Rojas at the Great Western Forum in February. "He understands that he's got to go into rehab before he can fight again in California," said Gene Field, Parker's manager . . . Our spies in Puerto Rico report that former junior lightweight champion Alfredo Escalera has returned to the ring—as a professional wrestler . . . Jerry Quarry, 44, lost a bid for a boxing license in Nevada. Quarry hasn't fought since 1977. He said he wanted to come back to fight George Foreman.



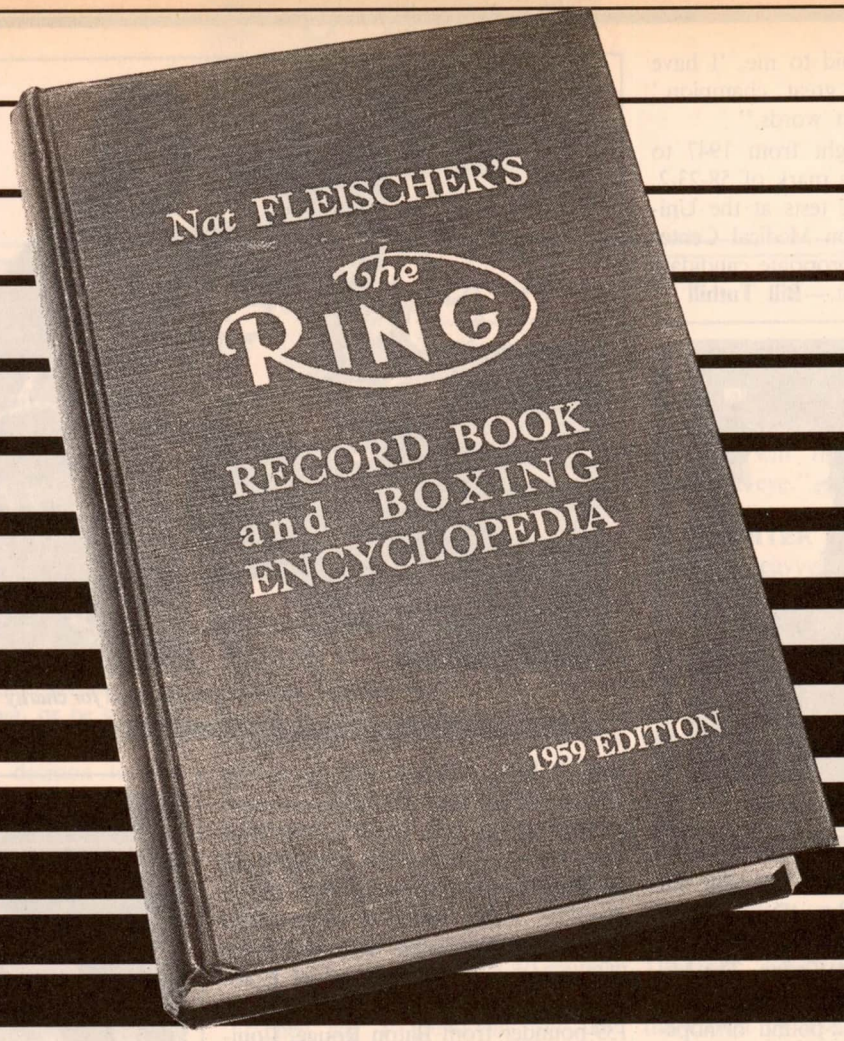
Escalera vs. Chicky Starr

THE PUNCHLINE: Jack Welsh, *The Ring's* correspondent in Las Vegas, reports that while only one hotel, The Mirage, took action on the result of the Douglas-Tyson fight, that didn't stop a couple of bettors from cashing in.

One bettor risked $1,500 on Douglas at 38-1 and collected $57,000. Another bet $500 at the same odds and collected $19,000. Most of the rest of the Douglas bets were for $100 and $200.

But, as usual, the house won its share. An out-of-towner wagered $70,000 on Tyson—for a potential profit of $2,000—and another player wagered $98,000.

The odds on a Douglas-Evander Holyfield title fight, provided it happens this year, have been set. Holyfield is a 2-1 favorite. □



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WATCHING TV

DATE	WINNER/LOSER	DIVISION	NETWORK	SIGNIFICANCE	MATCHUP	RESULT
02/15/90	Juan LaPorte W 12 Rogelio Lopez *LaPorte in charge throughout, though decision is split*	NABF jl	USA	B+	B-	C+
02/18/90	Michael Carbajal W 12 Tony DeLuca *Sloppy at times; Olympian starts, finishes strongly*	NABF jfl	NBC	B+	B+	B
02/18/90	Santos Cardona W 12 Ras-I Bramble *Fifth-round shellacking costs Ras-I in majority verdict*	NABF jw	ESPN	A-	B	B+
02/20/90	Glenwood Brown KO 8 Luis Santana *Brown boxes before eighth-round explosion*	w	MSG	A-	B-	C
02/22/90	Tony Baltazar KO 3 Pedro Laza *Aging Laza dropped and cut in round three*	jw	USA	C	C	C-
02/25/90	**Virgil Hill W 12 David Vedder** *Similar styles prevent foes from matching up well*	**WBA lh**	**ESPN**	**A**	**B-**	**C**
02/26/90	Ron Collins KO 5 Reggie Miller *Southpaw's jabs quickly discourage veteran loser*	m	SC	C+	C	C-
02/26/90	Pee Wee Parker W 12 Refugio Rojas *Rojas rises from three knockdowns to survive distance*	f	PT	B	B	B
03/01/90	Jemal Hinton KO 7 Freddy Hernandez *Tough win; Hinton fights through swollen left eye*	jf	USA	B-	C+	B
03/02/90	Ray Mercer W 12 Kimmuel Odom *Mercer hurts Odom often, can't put him away*	h	ESPN	B+	B	C+
03/03/90	**Mark Breland KO 3 Lloyd Honeyghan** *Faded Honeyghan down six times in three rounds!*	**WBA w**	**ABC**	**A**	**A-**	**D**
03/08/90	Dennis Milton W 10 Jose Martinez *Too much holding in sloppy, uneventful bout*	m	USA	C+	C	C
03/08/90	Tony Tucker W 10 Mike Evans *Tucker in control, but still needs to drop weight*	h	PT	B-	B-	B
03/12/90	Greg Haugen KO 10 Memo Cruz *First fight in 13 months for former champion*	jw	SC	B-	C+	C+

Category explanation: "Significance"—The importance of the bout to the division and the fighters' future; "Matchup"—The quality of the fighters and the prefight determination of how their styles will mesh; "Result"—How the bout turned out, from the viewer's perspective.)

Division key: h—heavyweight; c—cruiserweight; lh—light heavyweight; sm—super middleweight; m—middleweight; jm—junior middleweight; w—welterweight; jw—junior welterweight; l—lightweight; jl—junior lightweight; f—featherweight; jf—junior featherweight; b—bantamweight; jb—junior bantamweight; fl—flyweight; jfl—junior flyweight; s—strawweight.)

(World title fights in **bold** *type)*

Network key: PPV—Pay Per View; PT—Prime Ticket; SC—SportsChannel America; Show—Showtime

THE RING RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1 **BUSTER DOUGLAS**
Columbus, OH *30-4-1 (World Champ)*

2 **MIKE TYSON**
Catskill, NY *37-1*

3 **EVANDER HOLYFIELD**
Atlanta, GA *23-0*

4 **MICHAEL DOKES**
Las Vegas, NV *41-2-2*

5 **TIM WITHERSPOON**
Philadelphia, PA *31-3*

6 **FRANCESCO DAMIANI**
Italy *25-0*

7 **CARL WILLIAMS**
White Plains, NY *22-3*

8 **RAZOR RUDDOCK**
Canada *22-1-1*

9 **GARY MASON**
England *33-0*

10 **TONY TUCKER**
Big Oaks, CA *37-1*

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 195 pounds

1 **CARLOS DeLEON**
Puerto Rico *(WBC Champ) 42-5-1*

2 **TAOUFIK BELBOULI**
France *28-1*

3 **ROBERT DANIELS**
Miami, FL *17-1 (WBA Champ)*

4 **DWIGHT MUHAMMAD QAWI**
Cherry Hill, NJ *32-7-1*

5 **GLENN McCRORY**
England *(IBF Champ) 27-5*

6 **NATE MILLER**
Philadelphia, PA *15-1*

7 **ANACLET WAMBA**
France *27-1*

8 **JOHNNY NELSON**
England *16-5-1*

9 **JAMES WARRING**
Miami, FL *10-1*

10 **BOONE PULTZ**
Tyler, TX *16-1*

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1 **VIRGIL HILL**
Las Vegas, NV *(WBA Champ) 27-0*

2 **PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS**
Mansfield, OH *(IBF Champ) 28-4-2*

3 **MICHAEL MOORER**
Detroit, MI *19-0*

4 **JEFF HARDING**
Australia *(WBC Champ) 16-0*

5 **DENNIS ANDRIES**
Detroit, MI *36-8-2*

6 **DON LALONDE**
Canada *31-3*

7 **LESLIE STEWART**
Trinidad & Tobago *27-5*

8 **GRACIANO ROCCHIGIANI**
Germany *28-0*

9 **JOE LASISI**
Las Vegas, NV *21-1*

10 **ERIC NICOLETTA**
France *8-1*

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

1 **RAY LEONARD**
Potomac, MD *(WBC Champ) 36-1-1*

2 **THOMAS HEARNS**
Las Vegas, NV *46-3-1*

3 **LINDELL HOLMES**
Detroit, MI *41-5-1 (IBF Champ)*

4 **IN CHUL BAEK**
South Korea *(WBA Champ) 47-2*

5 **CHRISTOPHE TIOZZO**
France *25-0*

6 **ANTOINE BYRD**
Los Angeles, CA *16-1-1*

7 **FRANK TATE**
Houston, TX *24-2*

8 **DARIO MATTEONI**
Argentina *24-1-1*

9 **JAMES KINCHEN**
San Diego, CA *46-7-2*

10 **VICTOR CORDOVA**
Panama *10-2*

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 135 pounds

1 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Norfolk, VA *(IBF & WBC Champ) 21-1*

2 **EDWIN ROSARIO**
Puerto Rico *(WBA Champ) 35-3*

3 **TRACY SPANN**
Plainfield, NJ *24-0*

4 **FREDDIE PENDLETON**
Miami, FL *24-17-3*

5 **GREG HAUGEN**
Henderson, NV *24-2-1*

6 **JOHN DUPLESSIS**
New Orleans, LA *31-1*

7 **DAVID GONZALES**
San Jose, CA *23-1-1*

8 **POLI DIAZ**
Spain *28-0*

9 **CHIL SUNG CHUN**
South Korea *15-1*

10 **IWAO OTOMO**
Japan *21-3-3*

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 130 pounds

1 **AZUMAH NELSON**
Ghana *(WBC Champ) 31-1*

2 **JOHN-JOHN MOLINA**
Puerto Rico *(IBF Champ) 21-2*

3 **BRIAN MITCHELL**
South Africa *(WBA Champ) 40-1-2*

4 **JEFF FENECH**
Australia *24-0*

5 **TONY LOPEZ**
Sacramento, CA *33-2*

6 **GENARO HERNANDEZ**
Los Angeles, CA *18-0*

7 **BERNARD TAYLOR**
Knoxville, TN *41-2-2*

8 **JUAN LaPORTE**
New York, NY *36-9*

9 **MARIO MARTINEZ**
Mexico *47-6-2*

10 **JOEY GAMACHE**
Lewiston, ME *18-0*

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 126 pounds

1 **ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA**
Venezuela *(WBA Champ) 29-1-4*

2 **JEFF FENECH**
Australia *(WBC Champ) 24-0*

3 **JORGE PAEZ**
Mexico *(IBF Champ) 34-2-2*

4 **LOUIE ESPINOZA**
Phoenix, AZ *35-3-1*

5 **TROY DORSEY**
Dallas, TX *11-3-2*

6 **MAURIZIO STECCA**
Italy *36-1*

7 **PEE WEE PARKER**
Houston *21-3-2*

8 **MARCOS VILLASANA**
Mexico *49-7-2*

9 **RICARDO CEPEDA**
Bronx, NY *15-0-1*

10 **PAUL HODKINSON**
England *17-0-1*

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 122 pounds

1 **DANIEL ZARAGOZA**
Mexico *(WBC Champ) 40-4-1*

2 **JESUS SALUD**
San Diego, CA *(WBA Champ) 32-3*

3 **SEUNG HOON LEE**
South Korea *44-6-1*

4 **JUAN JOSE ESTRADA**
Mexico *36-8*

5 **WELCOME NCITA**
South Africa *25-0 (IBF Champ)*

6 **KENNY MITCHELL**
Houston, TX *20-8-3*

7 **PEDRO DECIMA**
Argentina *24-2*

8 **PAUL BANKE**
Quail Valley, CA *17-4*

9 **JESSE BENAVIDES**
Corpus Christi, TX *29-1*

10 **JEMAL HINTON**
District Heights, MD *12-0*

Records Compiled By Eric Armit

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

- In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.
- Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.
- These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

For Period Ended March 12, 1990

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 160 pounds

1 **MICHAEL NUNN**
Los Angeles, CA *(IBF Champ) 34-0*

2 **SUMBU KALAMBAY**
Italy *48-4-1*

3 **MIKE McCALLUM**
Brooklyn, NY *(WBA Champ) 37-1*

4 **ROBERTO DURAN**
Miami, FL *85-8*

5 **IRAN BARKLEY**
Bronx, NY *25-6*

6 **MICHAEL WATSON**
England *22-1-1*

7 **HEROL GRAHAM**
England *42-2*

8 **NIGEL BENN**
England *25-1*

9 **DOUG DeWITT**
Yonkers, NY *31-6-4*

10 **STEVE COLLINS**
Brockton, MA *16-1*

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 154 pounds

1 **JULIAN JACKSON**
Virgin Islands *(WBA Champ) 38-1*

2 **JOHN MUGABI**
Tampa, FL *(WBC Champ) 36-2*

3 **GIANFRANCO ROSI**
Italy *(IBF Champ) 47-3*

4 **JOHN DAVID JACKSON**
Tucson, AZ *20-0*

5 **TERRY NORRIS**
Campo, CA *24-3*

6 **RENE JACQUOT**
France *26-7-1*

7 **DONALD CURRY**
Fort Worth, TX *32-3*

8 **DARRIN VAN HORN**
Lexington, KY *42-1*

9 **CHRIS PYATT**
England *29-2*

10 **JORGE CASTRO**
Argentina *43-1-2*

WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 147 pounds

1 **MARLON STARLING**
South Windsor, CT *(WBC Champ) 45-5-1*

2 **SIMON BROWN**
Washington, D.C. *(IBF Champ) 31-1*

3 **MARK BRELAND**
Brooklyn, NY *(WBA Champ) 27-1-1*

4 **BUDDY McGIRT**
Brentwood, NY *47-2-1*

5 **TYRONE TRICE**
Detroit, MI *36-2*

6 **MAURICE BLOCKER**
Washington, D.C. *31-1*

7 **GLENWOOD BROWN**
Plainfeild, NJ *28-1*

8 **AARON DAVIS**
Bronx, NY *27-0*

9 **ANTOINE FERNANDEZ**
France *32-1-1*

10 **GENARO LEON**
Mexico *33-2-1*

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 140 pounds

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Mexico *(WBC Champ) 67-0*

2 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Philadelphia, PA *(IBF Champ) 24-0-1*

3 **JUAN COGGI**
Argentina *(WBA Champ) 43-1-2*

4 **ROGER MAYWEATHER**
Las Vegas, NV *35-6*

5 **HECTOR CAMACHO**
Big Cypress, FL *37-0*

6 **LORETO GARZA**
Sacramento, CA *26-1-1*

7 **FRANKIE RANDALL**
Morristown, TN *40-2-1*

8 **LOUIE LOMELI**
Melrose Park, IL *26-1*

9 **SANTOS CARDONA**
New York City *17-3*

10 **SAMMY FUENTES**
Puerto Rico *20-7-1*

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 118 pounds

1 **RAUL PEREZ**
Mexico *(WBC Champ) 46-1-1*

2 **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
Laredo, TX *(IBF Champ) 23-1-1*

3 **LUISITO ESPINOSA**
Philippines *(WBA Champ) 22-5*

4 **GERARDO MARTINEZ**
San Jose, CA *23-0*

5 **ISRAEL CONTRERAS**
Venezuela *32-2-1*

6 **KAOKOR GALAXY**
Thailand *24-2*

7 **WILFREDO VASQUEZ**
Puerto Rico *27-3-3*

8 **PEPILLO VALDEZ**
Mexico *36-3*

9 **HURLEY SNEAD**
Detroit, MI *39-2-1*

10 **BILLY HARDY**
England *22-5-1*

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 115 pounds

1 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Thailand *(WBA Champ) 42-1*

2 **MOON SUNG KIL**
South Korea *11-1 (WBC Champ)*

3 **NANA KONADU**
Ghana *18-1-1*

4 **GILBERTO ROMAN**
Mexico *53-5-1*

5 **JOSE RUIZ**
Puerto Rico *16-2*

6 **JUAN POLO**
Colombia *(IBF Champ) 27-5-2*

7 **THANOMSAK SITHBAOBEY**
Thailand *28-1*

8 **ELLY PICAL**
Indonesia *18-4*

9 **ROBERT QUIROGA**
San Antonio, TX *15-0*

10 **YONG HEUN LEE**
South Korea *14-0*

FLYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 112 pounds

1 **SOT CHITALADA**
Thailand *(WBC Champ) 20-2-1*

2 **YUL WOO LEE**
South Korea *19-2 (WBA Champ)*

3 **DAVE McAULEY**
Ireland *(IBF Champ) 14-2-2*

4 **JUNG KOO CHANG**
South Korea *37-2*

5 **JESUS ROJAS**
Venezuela *19-2-1*

6 **JAVIER LUCAS**
Mexico *37-5*

7 **RICHARD CLARKE**
Jamaica *22-2*

8 **LEOPARD TAMAKUMA**
Japan *25-4*

9 **ROMY NAVARETTE**
Philippines *35-9-1*

10 **YONG KANG KIM**
South Korea *19-2*

POUND FOR POUND
Boxing's 10 Best Fighters, Pound For Pound

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Junior Welterweight

2 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Lightweight

3 **MICHAEL NUNN**
Middleweight

4 **ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA**
Featherweight

5 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Junior Welterweight

6 **BUSTER DOUGLAS**
Heavyweight

7 **MIKE TYSON**
Heavyweight

8 **AZUMAH NELSON**
Junior Lightweight

9 **RAUL PEREZ**
Bantamweight

10 **VIRGIL HILL**
Light Heavyweight

KATZ SCAN

When 3% Is Good Enough

By Michael Katz

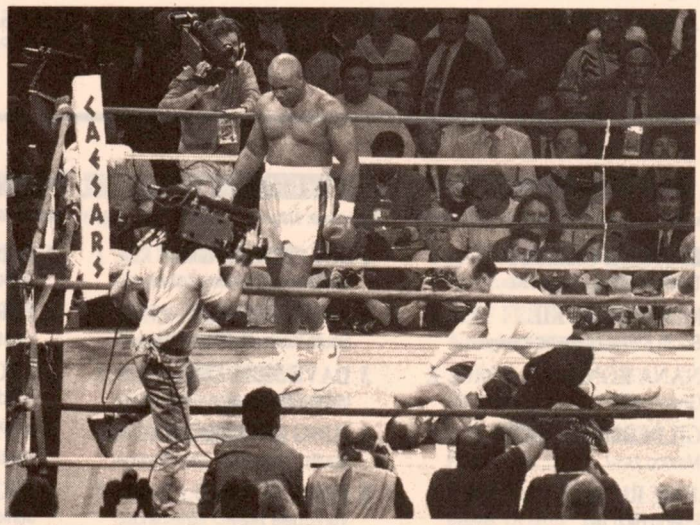
The ultimate insult would have been Mike Tyson vs. Hulk Hogan. We may still get it. There are no boundaries of bad taste in boxing, same as there are no limits to what will be the phenomenon of the '90s: pay-per-view television.

As easy as pushing a button, pay-per-view will generate heretofore unbelievable quantities of money. So far, only Sugar Ray Leonard has earned more than $100-million for his career. Promoter Bob Arum predicts, and for once he is not that wild-mouthed, that before the end of this century, someone will make $100-million for one fight.

At this writing, there are maybe 14 million homes wired for pay-per-view, 14 million homes where, for the push of that button, impulse buyers can choose anything from a Rolling Stones concert to a big movie. By century's end, it's conceivable that the number of homes will be 100 million.

It doesn't take a mathematician to add up the potential. Charge $30 for a fight, half of which goes to the promotion. Multiply that by the "buy rate"—the percentage of homes actually buying the event. For a blockbuster fight, that could be 10 percent. Right now, that means 1.4 million homes multiplied by $15. A lot. By 2000, a 10 percent penetration could mean 10 million times $15. It's mind-boggling: $150-million into the pot, not counting site fee, delay rights, foreign TV, and advertisements on the bottoms of the fighters' shoes.

But there are unmistakable signs that pay-per-view, instead of being the bonanza that Arum, not facetiously, declares will entice all red-blooded American boys into boxing, could also turn out to be the golden egg that cooks the goose.



The George Foreman-Gerry Cooney fight took place only because the fight could be profitable on a pay-per-view basis. Matchups like this, according to columnist Michael Katz, are meant to appeal to the lowest common denominator of fan.

Blockbuster matchups are rare. Pay-per-view will enhance what a decade ago was the closed-circuit fight, what 20 years ago might have been the prime-time network show. No complaints. Let the fighters make as much as the market bears. But watch out. So far, while the top pay-per-view stars have been the Tysons and Leonards, the next level has been dominated by the clowns—Hector Camacho, George Foreman, Gerry Cooney. They get on pay-per-view. Julio Cesar Chavez and Meldrick Taylor do not. Obviously, something is very wrong here.

Pay-per-view is show biz in the worst sense of the word, the stuff that killed vaudeville. Tyson-Hulk, before James (Buster) Douglas had the decency to intervene on the side of good taste, would get a lot more button-pushers than magical matchups like Chavez-Taylor. I can almost accept that. Cooney-Foreman I cannot.

Promoters seldom promote. It is far easier to cater to the lowest common denominator. Give the suckers what they want. Or at least what they are familiar with. Yesterday's stars were good enough; we don't have to work to build new ones.

Foreman and Cooney are "names." So what if they can't fight? They can, and will, if promoters are unchecked by public opinion, saturate the airwaves. The Senior Tours will give way to the Graduate Student Tour. Eventually, of course, there is going to be a disaster. It is one thing for a Duk Koo Kim to die in the ring. No one heard of him; he was young, virile, and competitive. What kind of outcry will there be when one

For purists, the positive side of pay-per-view is the creation of fights like Thomas Hearns-Michael Olajide (pictured with Donald Trump).

of the Social Security Brigade bites the dust? Or becomes so permanently brain-scarred to be incoherent? What happens when the public recognizes that the hucksters have been using, and abusing, the old warriors?

The hucksters don't care. In a way, they blame the public. Listen to Murad Muhammad, promoter with Madison Square Garden of what figured to be a fine pay-per-view event, the Donovan "Razor" Ruddock-Michael Dokes heavyweight clash. This was pay-per-view at its finest, a match that was too expensive for network weekend TV, not compelling enough for the star-happy executives at HBO. There indeed is an important niche that pay-per-view can fill in boxing—the good fight that otherwise wouldn't get made because of economics. Thomas Hearns-Michael Olajide, a light heavyweight unification, and Dokes-Ruddock, for example.

But in order to sell pay-per-view, Murad said, it was necessary to add to the card the embarrassing matchup of James "Bonecrusher" Smith and Mike Weaver, a pair of former WBA heavyweight champions who should be in rocking chairs, not rings. "People have heard of the Bonecrusher and Mike Weaver," argued Murad.

He thereupon gave a classic example of why pay-per-view is a dangerous tool in the wrong hands. He said his young sons wanted to attend a pro wrestling show recently. Attempting to dissuade them, he told them who was going to win (Murad knew).

"They didn't care," said Murad. "They wanted to see their heroes."

In a way, we are all to blame: the public for accepting the drivel served up by the hucksters, the press for not blasting it effectively enough, though Lord knows I've been trying.

"We are giving the public what they want, entertainment," said Kathy Duva, whose husband was then staging the Hector Camacho-Vinny Pazienza extravaganza that, for some reason, had star billing over the legitimate lightweight title defense of Pernell Whitaker, one of boxing's best, against the dangerous challenger, Freddie Pendleton.

But while she was huckstering Camacho-Pazienza, a great matchup in the same 140-pound junior welterweight division was given little publicity. Julio Cesar Chavez and Meldrick Taylor, having already been sold to HBO and the Las Vegas Hilton, needed no more buildup and got none.

Thank goodness for HBO, which had the good sense, and enough dollars, to put together Chavez-Taylor and the Whitaker-Azumah Nelson fights. Neither would have made it on pay-per-view because neither had "star" quality.

"We could have gone on pay-per-view," said Taylor. "It's just that HBO already had a deal with Chavez."

No, Meldrick. You, an undefeated Olympic gold medal winner, and Chavez, at the time considered the finest fighter in the world, pound-for-pound, were not easy enough sells. The promoters (Don King and Dan Duva) would have had to work for their money. So Chavez and Taylor made less, for example, than Foreman and Cooney.

There is another danger, though less critical, from pay-per-view. Actually, it has been present even with the deluxe cable networks, HBO and Showtime. It can best be seen with Michael Nunn as the example. Nunn did not achieve the superstar status he believed he was worthy of because he was in a sense oversold to the highest bidder, in this case Arum's use of pay-per-view and HBO. Both outlets, while giving Nunn greater purses than would otherwise have been available, afforded him less exposure than network TV would have. While he was making more now, he was not able to cash in later.

Mike Trainer, Ray Leonard's wise guru, compared the Nunn buildup with his own fighter's. Leonard was an ABC darling before he branched out to the bigger bucks. When he did, he was a huge star, able to command multimillion-dollar purses. He was known not only by the readers of *The Ring* magazine, but by those who perused *Time, Life,* and *GQ*. He had crossed the line from boxing star to just-plain-star.

By contrast, Nunn and to a degree even Evander Holyfield have been under-developed. Holyfield did appear often on ABC when he came out of the 1984 Games as an Olympic hero. But his bellweather fights were on Showtime, with its slimmer penetration. By the time he was ready for a pay-per-view/closed circuit extravaganza against Mike Tyson (oops, James Douglas), Holyfield had not been imprinted on the mind of the general public. Oh, we boxing fans knew all about him. But John Q., who gets excited by only a few fights a year, had only vague notions.

Pay-per-view is a tool, no less than say the wheel or gunpowder. It's how it is used that will determine its eventual effect on boxing. It can be used for the sport's good. A terrific fight, let's say Pernell Whitaker and Jeff Fenech, that only the cognoscenti know about, will eventually be made only on pay-per-view because the networks or HBO won't be able to meet the price and even a two or three percent "buy rate" will bring in enough dollars to satisfy both boxers.

Not since the '50s has boxing had an in-place structure that can generate a healthy sport for years to come. There are enough cable TV outlets—ESPN, SportsChannel, USA, Madison Square Garden, BET—to act as the old clubs and develop new and young talent. The networks are still around, and so are HBO and Showtime. Pay-per-view can fit nicely here not only as the replacement for closed-circuit TV handling the blockbuster fights, but for a lot of bona fide "in-betweens." However, the same danger that helped wound boxing in the '50s—oversaturation—is clear and present. The public must beware. To a large degree, it is up to public opinion to act as the final arbiter. Don't buy yesterday's garbage. □

RYAN

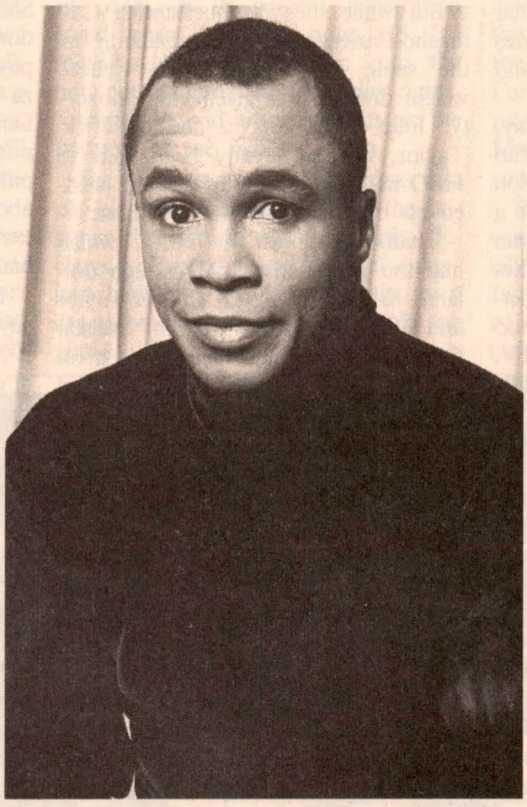
OUT LOUD

AN IMAGE POORLY REFLECTED

By Jeff Ryan

The thought occurred to me somewhere between Wilmington and Philly, before the baby behind me let out his 20th scream of the afternoon and after the guy next to me sank a submarine sandwich into his gut before the doomed sub could even send out a distress signal. A lot of thoughts come to mind during a three-hour ride on Amtrak, and no, not all of them have to do with the many inadequacies of the Department of Transportation.

Heading back home, from Washington, D.C., to New York, my mind was on Sugar Ray Leonard, or, I should say, the *two* Sugar Ray Leonards. It struck me as incredibly ironic that Leonard, a fighter who has always been more image-conscious than anyone else in his profession, is viewed so negatively by the masses these days. And despite attempts to make him as familiar to every American family as the kid next door, he is so clearly misunderstood.



Sugar Ray Leonard has become a superstar the fans love to hate. In recent years, Leonard's image has suffered immensely.

Leonard and I had spoken a few hours earlier in a conference room in the office of his attorney-manager, Mike Trainer. It was the kind of room where business deals are struck, sometimes big ones. In recent years, rooms like this have gotten Leonard's adrenaline pumping the same way that rooms like the Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion always have. Today, business was again on his mind. He was talking about people giving him the business, and he didn't mean in a particularly positive way.

On this winter afternoon in the autumn of his career, Leonard had been privately lamenting the fact that he is perceived as the kid who was born with a silver mouthpiece wedged between his lips, and that somehow he hasn't earned every penny of the roughly $100-million he has made.

"People only see the finished product," he said. "They see me at ringside with an HBO tux on. They don't see what enabled me to get that far. They don't see the calcium deposits on my knuckles. They don't see the scar tissue."

They don't see a lot of things. Mostly, they don't see the Sugar Ray Leonard that I've seen at times through the years, the private side of the public figure. And so they boo. When he fights, they boo. When he works a fight as an announcer, they boo. When he walks into an arena as a fan, they boo. To the fans, Leonard has become Jose Sulaiman without the accent, Don King without the hair.

During interviews, Leonard is obsessed with displaying his intelligence, with killing the stereotype that all boxers are idiots. He'd rather use three big words in a sentence and talk in circles than answer a question directly with a simple sentence. But I have seen a man who can be incredibly engaging when the microphone is turned off, a man whose speech is quick and colorful, even spiced with four-letter words. I've seen a wit that is one of boxing's sharpest, and a great sense of humor as well.

I've seen a gentleman and a sportsman, someone who apologized to Don Lalonde for keeping him waiting at a photo session. This despite the fact that Lalonde had been going around

calling him an "old welterweight" at every opportunity.

I've seen a humble Sugar Ray a few days after the Hearns rematch, walking gingerly and talking about how sore he was, even though in public, he was acting like a hitter who takes a fastball in the ribs but won't rub.

I've seen him around the young fighters he once trained, kids like featherweight Robert Byrd, whom he once berated for a subpar performance, telling him, *"I'm* showcasing your ass!" Moments later, though, Leonard was consoling the disappointed fighter as tenderly as if he were his own son. And when it was time to meet the press, Leonard was telling reporters about the great future the fighter had.

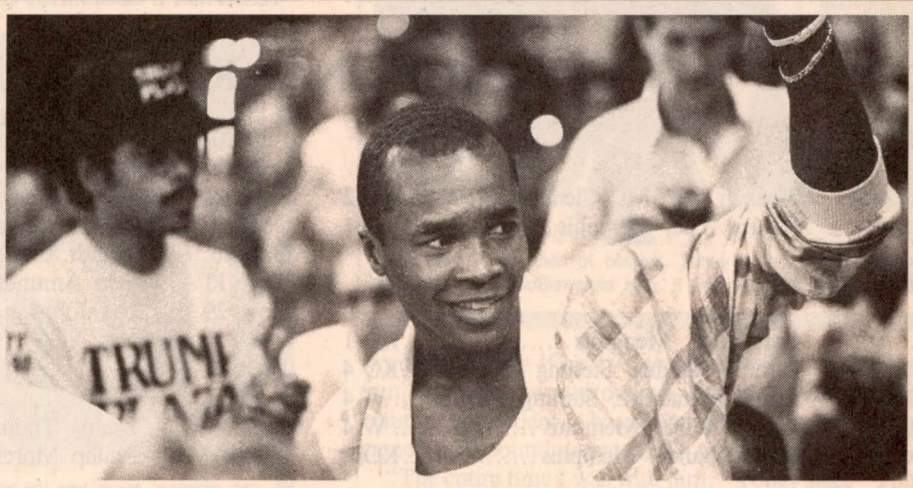
It's been suggested that Leonard attend AA (Arrogance Anonymous) if he wants to overcome his boos problem. And his attitude has, at times, been tough to digest. He has used retirements and comebacks as bargaining chips, and played games with the issue of facing Michael Nunn. For handpicking the safe Don Lalonde as a foe in 1988, he should have been sentenced to a lifetime of steam-cleaning Howard Cosell's toupees.

But I can't, as many fans have, let this cloud my judgment of the complex package that Ray Leonard is. I can't brush aside the magic he has produced through the years, the thrills he has provided so generously. No one should forget the way he pulled off probably the second greatest upset of the century, the complete befuddlement of Marvelous Marvin Hagler. (Sorry, Marvelettes, Hagler's claim that he won is laughable.) Nor should anyone forget that he is undeniably the greatest fighter we've seen since Muhammad Ali, and maybe the last great fighter of the 20th century.

I don't question the right of the fans to sour on Sugar. It's as *in* to hate Leonard these days as it is to love Tom Cruise. I do, however, question the reasons *why* America has turned on its one-time hero. Before Leonard-Duran III, almost all of the fans who spoke to us and wrote to us said they'd be pulling for Duran. Their reasons included the fact that Leonard manipulates organizations like the WBC and dictates the financial terms of every bout. Sounds like some people are looking real hard for a reason to not like him.

Real smart bunch, these fans. They boo a guy who they believe is ripping off a millionaire like Thomas Hearns. And they cheer a guy like Duran, who, by saying *"No mas"* in 1980, ripped off every hardworking guy who paid $25 for a closed-circuit ticket to watch him fight.

Uh, the remedial logic class meets down the hall, fellas.



When Leonard is now introduced at boxing matches, he's booed. Columnist Jeff Ryan, however, has seen the private side of Sugar Ray, a side that doesn't always match Leonard's public image.

Leonard is the only fighter I've dealt with in my six years in the business who is vain enough to bring a makeup artist to a photo session. But he is also the only one you can be certain will show up for a photo session once it's scheduled. He never talks down opponents, doesn't slap his wife around, and hasn't wondered aloud why guys dare challenge him with their "primitive skills." And he never gave a middle-finger salute to Duran's wife, as Duran did to his.

Is Leonard pompous? Sure. Can he be condescending? Extremely. But when someone wants to put him under the heat lamp and grill him about why he is that way, he makes an appointment to sit down and tell him. Does he duck questions? Sometimes. But there are two ways of ducking questions. One is to give evasive answers. The other is to keep changing your phone number or have your manager say that you're on a six-month safari in Kenya and unavailable for comment. The latter has never been Leonard's way.

Leonard's predicament reminds me a lot of Reggie Jackson's, and I presume that it will conclude the same way. Boxing fans boo Leonard the way Yankee fans once booed Reggie. And there is indeed a lot of Reggie in Leonard. Reggie was a guy who made the big money and acted like it. He strutted. He primped. His nose was so far up in the air that it needed its own seat in the upper deck. The jeers were the 9-to-5 guys' way of telling Reggie that he didn't own the world, just a few dozen antique cars.

And yet, when the Yankees were down by five runs in the bottom of the ninth, and common sense dictated making a run for the crowded parking garage or the subway platform, the fans instead stayed put, waiting to see number 44 take one more big cut for the right field seats. Just as the fans still plunk down big bucks to watch Leonard fight.

In the winter of 1982, Reggie became a free agent and Yankees owner George Steinbrenner allowed him to sign with the California Angels. Judging by the reaction of New Yorkers, you would have thought the mayor had allowed the Statue of Liberty to be carted off to Roanoke, Virginia. When Reggie came back to The Bronx and homered against his old team, the crowd gave him a standing ovation and launched into a chant of "Steinbrenn-er sucks!" Today, Reggie's a Yankee legend, and the talk is of retiring his number.

Someday, at the urging of the same fans who once jeered him, they'll retire Ray Leonard's number, too.

Even if it does have a dollar sign in front of it. □

N E W

FACES

JAMES TONEY

PROFESSIONAL RECORD

1988

Oct. 26	Stephen Lee, Mt. Clemens, TN	KO 2
Dec. 6	Ronnie Yoe, Memphis	KO 1

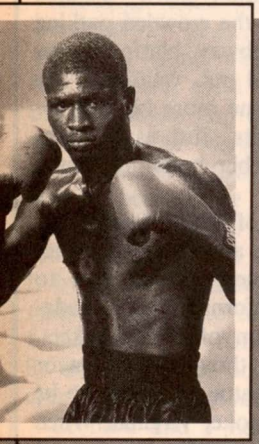
1989

Jan. 10	Carl Penn, Memphis	KO 1
Jan. 17	Sammy Jenkins, Sterling Heights	KO 4
Feb. 16	James Fernandez, Sterling Heights	W 4
May 2	Arthur Willis, Memphis	W 4
June 6	Steve Chaney, Memphis	KO 1
July 20	Mark Stevens, Detroit	KO 2
Sept. 7	LaMark Davis, Auburn Hills, MI	W 6
Sept. 21	Joe Summers, Atlantic City, NJ	KO 2
Oct. 12	Ricardo Simpson, Auburn Hills	KO 2
Oct. 26	Robert Clinton, Atlantic City	KO 1
Nov. 13	Ron Amundsen, Milwaukee	W 10
Nov. 29	Joe Johnson, Auburn Hills	KO 4

1990

Jan. 20	Danny Thomas, Auburn Hills	W 8
March 1	Phillip Morefield, Auburn Hills	KO 1

RECORD:	FIGHTS	WON	LOST	DREW	KO
	16	16	0	0	11



By Joseph C. Tintle

A week before their showdown for the Michigan State middleweight championship, Phil Morefield characterized himself as "an animal" who was determined to "get inside and take James Toney out." As Toney walked from the dressing room to the ring, he reminded himself what he had to do to keep his brawling opponent off him: *Work the jab; keep the left hand up at all times; move, move, move.* But when ringsiders at The Palace in Auburn Hills exploded with an overwhelming cheer for Morefield during the introductions, Toney adopted a new strategy.

"I decided right then and there to go for the quick knockout," he said. "I wasn't going to take any chances with the fight going to a decision."

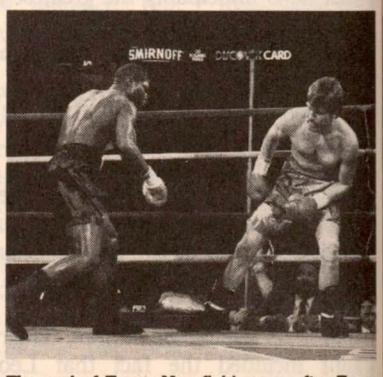
Seconds after the opening bell, Toney dug a left uppercut to the pit of Morefield's stomach. He then followed with a left hook that innocently landed on the right bicep of the crowd favorite. Morefield, however, was already stumbling backward from the deadening effects of the initial punch. He landed rump-first on the canvas, rolled over, and sucked in deep puffs of air as referee Bobby Watson gave him an eight-count.

After Morefield got to his feet, Toney charged in and fired lefts and rights to the head, backing his opponent against the ropes. Sensing Morefield's troubles, Toney crowded him and drove a left hook to the liver. Morefield winced and fell in a neutral corner. A moment later, Watson waved the fight over. Seventy seconds had elapsed.

"I told my management this would be my easiest fight," said Toney, who earned $2,500 for the bout, "and I proved that he was no competition for me. Every time you hit somebody in the right spot, they're gonna go."

Toney's trainer, Keith Lee, had hoped the fight would last longer so his 21-year-old prospect could display more of his skills during the scheduled 10-rounder.

"James is a good boxer offensively and defensively," Lee said. "And he throws good, fast combinations. I would've liked to have



The end of Toney-Morefield came after Toney landed a crunching body blow.

seen him show what he's got, as well as work on keeping his left up. But a fighter's strategy can change at any time."

After his victory, Toney was kissed by Jackie Kallen, one of the few female managers in boxing. Toney signed with her last June, after his first manager, Johnny "Ace" Smith, was gunned down during a street assault in Detroit. Smith, who was also a promoter, had allegedly been involved in drug trading.

Toney and Lee were devastated by Smith's death. But as it turned out, the change in management hasn't hurt Toney's development.

"Jackie's got me fighting almost all the time," Toney said. "I can't complain. She gets me fights, and she hires tough sparring partners who keep me sharp. And now that I've got a state title, the next move is to crack the world ratings."

Photos By Chris Cuellar & Ron Exelby

Toney, a finesse boxer who had planned to jab and move, watches as Morefield crashes in the first round at the Palace in Auburn Hills.

"Winning the State title meant a lot to James," said Kallen. "It's sort of like winning the Miss Michigan crown if your goal is to become Miss America."

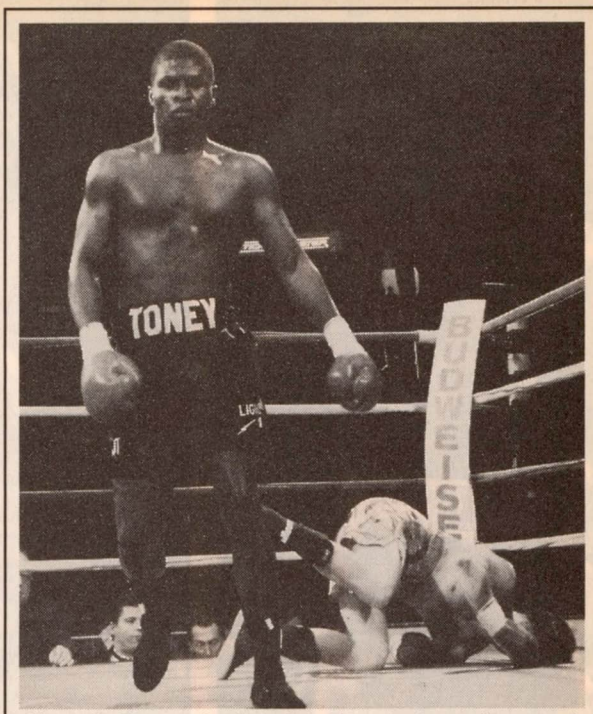
Toney, still in the early stages of his pro career, is determined to capture a world title. His resolve was strengthened last year, when Kallen arranged a visit to the home of Toney's boxing hero, Thomas Hearns. Kallen was once Hearns' publicist, and the "Hit Man" was more than happy to meet with her prospect and offer him encouragement.

"I couldn't believe Tommy's home," said Toney, who lives in Ann Arbor. "The first thing I saw was his lighted brass trophy showcase just inside the front door where he keeps his five championship belts. I took one look at them and told myself that I could win at least two such belts in my career."

Hearns, who likes to share his experiences with young fighters, advised Toney to be aware of those who surround him.

"Fortunately," Hearns said, "James is with a good, honest, sweet person in Jackie. She won't ever steer him wrong, and she'll move him the right way at all times. But I suggested that he take particular care when it comes to selecting opponents. First, he should build his record, then fight competitive fighters. But not someone who's going to give him a real tough fight too early on."

As Hearns escorted Toney through his house and its rambling grounds, the young middleweight's eyes bugged out when he spied a Rolls Royce, a sunken pool with the



After only 70 seconds of combat, Toney is the newly crowned Michigan State middleweight king. It was his 16th straight win.

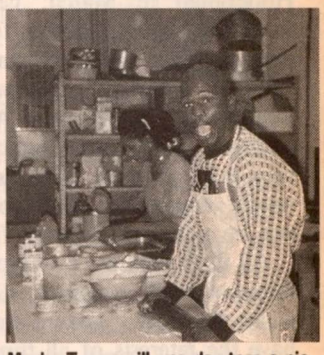
words *Five-Time World Champion* inscribed on the bottom, an expansive workout area that featured the latest in Nautilus equipment, a basement filled with various video games, a 30-pound parrot, and a monkey.

"The entire time I was with him," Toney said, "Tommy was telling me that whatever I earn from boxing, never take anything for granted. And never, he told me, lose your values along the way."

Toney has always valued his relationship with his mother, Sherry, a businesswoman in Ann Arbor, where she owns and operates a bakery. After mother and son run together in the morning, Toney delivers her bakery products to local universities, restaurants, and specialty shops. Then he returns to the bakery to help bake cakes and pies.

"I'd do anything to help my mother," he said. "I owe her a lot because she raised me all by herself, since my father walked out on us when I was seven months old."

But Sherry Toney knows more than Black Forest cakes and pecan pies.

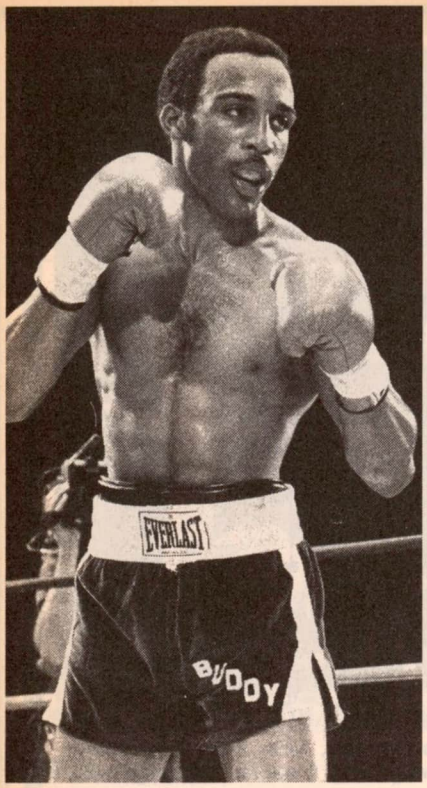


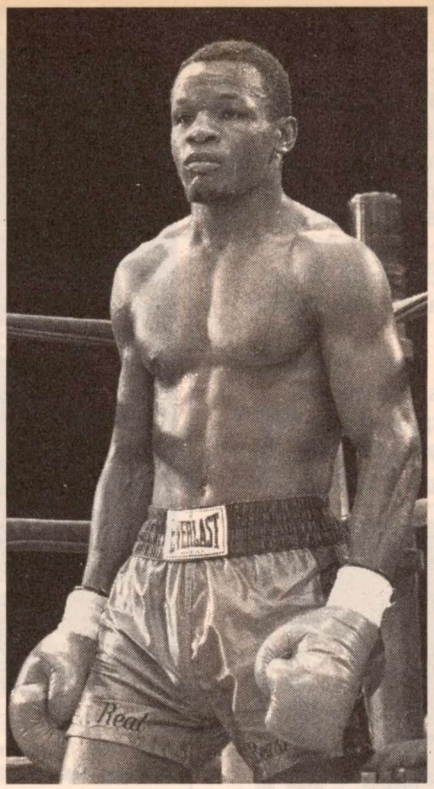
Maybe Toney will one day toss a pie, instead of a right, at an opponent.

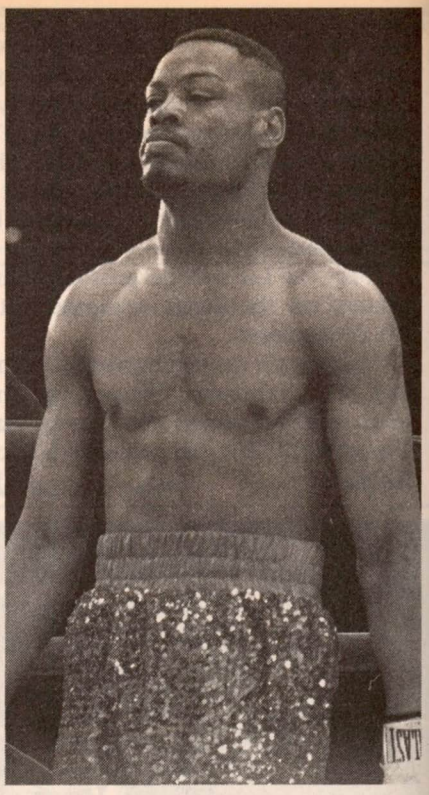
"I often remind James that once you lose a few fights in boxing, you are no longer marketable," she said. "In that case, he ought to have something else to fall back on."

Toney plans to eventually attend the University of Michigan, where his mother earned a master's degree in theater.

"I'd like to get into broadcasting," he said. "I'm a pretty good talker, and it sure beats some jobs that are out there. But for now, though, I'll concentrate on boxing. I feel I have a God-given talent that I ought to explore further." □







McGIRT, BROWN, DAVIS, AND THE NEW YORK WELTER WEB

By Jeffrey Cohn

After WBA titleholder Mark Breland knocked out Lloyd Honeyghan in March, he suggested three men as possibilities for his next defense. Once again, the names James "Buddy" McGirt, Glenwood "The Real Beast" Brown, and Aaron "Superman" Davis were linked. It happens a lot to these three rising welterweight contenders, and sometimes it can be a source of great frustration.

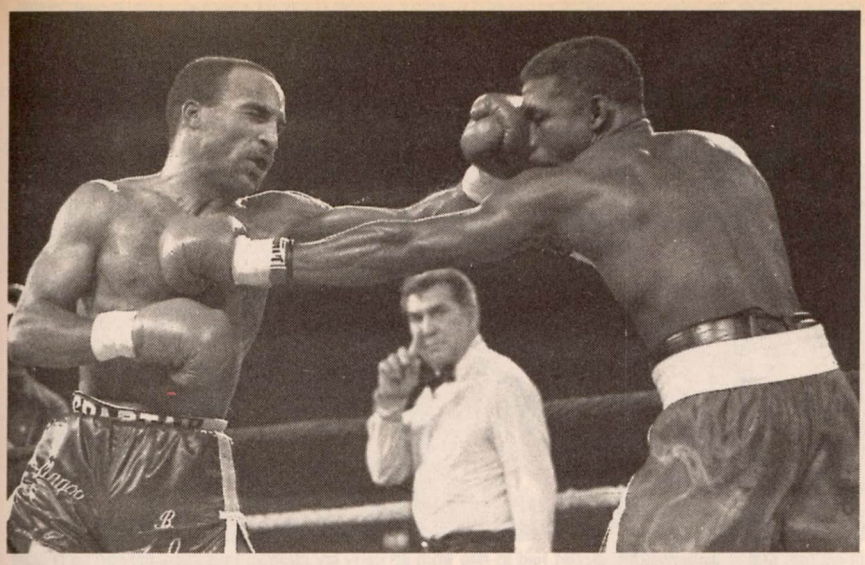
All three men are in the promotional stable of Madison Square Garden, and while the MSG boxing heads might have the interests of all three at heart, there is cause to fear that those interests might soon conflict. As the boxing world learns more and more about these talented welterweights, the question is going to be posed: Is it possible for one promoter to keep three men at the same weight with the same goals happy?

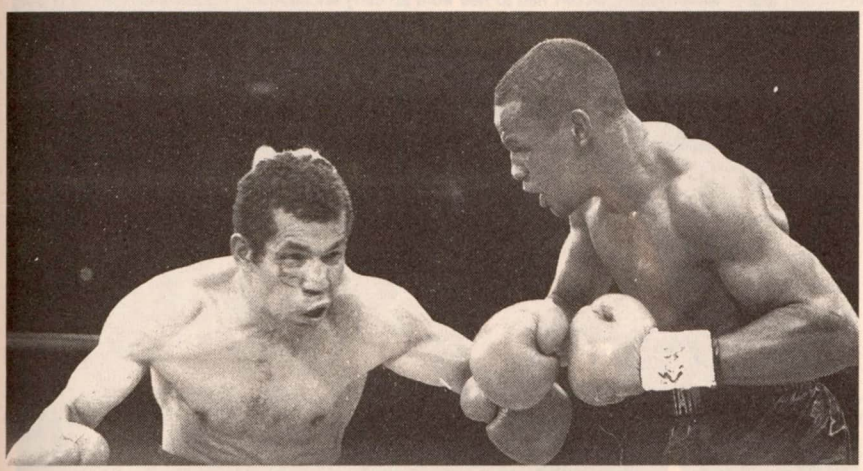
At the moment, McGirt has a reason to be the happiest. There is a definite pecking order among the three welterweights, and McGirt, a former IBF junior welterweight champion, is up front. Each is ranked seventh or higher by the WBA, WBC, and IBF, and Brown and Davis are the respective 147-pound champions of the USBA and NABF, but McGirt will probably get the first crack at a world title. Four years older than his two stablemates at 26, he is more experienced and more marketable.

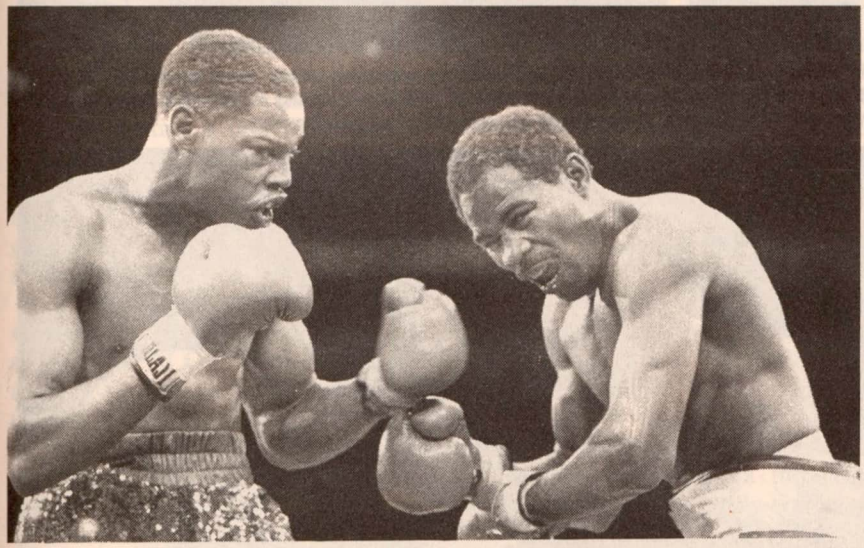
While this doesn't please Brown or Davis, it seems logical to the Garden.

"Buddy McGirt is an established commodity, both with the public and the television people," said Bobby Goodman, vice president of boxing for MSG. "McGirt is a former world champion who has fought on national television many times and has done good [Nielsen] numbers for them. I'm still trying to make Glenwood and Aaron these type of commodities."

Davis has never appeared on network television, while Brown beat Young Dick Tiger on NBC last May. Of that uneventful 12-rounder, NBC boxing coordinator Kevin Monaghan said, "It was good for the purists, but watching it was like taking a sleeping pill."







The contenders in action: McGirt was dominant in stopping former 140-pound titlist Joe Manley last November (top). Brown chopped up and easily outpointed trialhorse Orlando Orozco in April 1988 (middle). The unbeaten Davis punished veteran Sammy Floyd in July 1988 (bottom).

Further proof of McGirt's superior position over his Garden brethren is that while Brown and Davis clamor for title shots, McGirt was secure enough to have rejected an offer for $150,000 to fight IBF champion Simon Brown on the Camacho-Pazienza pay-per-view show in February because he didn't want to fight on an undercard.

Meanwhile, Brown, 28-1 (21), and Davis, 28-0 (12), have built their standing in the typical fashion of Garden fighters—against carefully chosen opponents in bouts televised by the MSG cable network. But now that the three are so closely bunched in the ratings, the question of whether one promoter can fairly represent the best interests of three different fighters in the same weight class must be addressed.

"That's never been a problem for us," rival promoter Dan Duva said. "We've had fighters in the same weight class at the same stage in their careers, but since in most weight classes there is more than one champion, you can guide the fighters to fight different champions. With McGirt, Davis, and Brown, they're all contenders, so it's whatever the champions want to do—it's up to the champion to say, 'I want to fight Aaron Davis, Glenwood Brown, or Buddy McGirt.'

"Plus, all those guys have different managers and trainers who act in each of their best interests. The real conflict comes when you have the same managers and trainers. But in this situation, I don't think the Garden minds having them fight each other."

But it is precisely on Duva's last point that Brown begs to differ. After his last win, a good-looking knockout over Luis Santana, a veteran who had extended Simon Brown in his previous fight, Brown and manager Mike Jones called for a fight with McGirt as the most direct route to a world title shot.

"It upsets me that the Garden seems to be giving McGirt all the best chances," Brown said. "I know I can beat Buddy, and I'd like to prove it in the ring. I'm close to fighting for a world title, too, and I feel I'm better than McGirt and Aaron Davis."

"I think that's great," Goodman said. "If they challenge each other it keeps all their names out there. I'll let them fight against one another when the time is right, in a title unification, or maybe if Buddy fights Simon Brown, and the other two guys are chomping at the bit so much that they want to fight each other. I'll let them fight each other because then I'll have the money to pay them. I think the way to go is for each of them to shoot at one of the world titles eventually, even if one of them already has a title. Any one of these guys fighting each other is a tough fight, and we've spent an awful lot of time and effort building their careers. They're all going in terrific fashion, they're all knocking at the door of every welterweight in the world. They're going to get a crack. It's not in the best interests of anything we've planned out to let them fight each other prematurely."

McGirt and Brown have one-year contracts with the Garden, with renewal options. Davis has only a verbal agreement. While Brown seems the most displeased with the status quo, none of the welterweights appear to be ready to leave the Garden.

With McGirt currently fielding the most lucrative offers (as we went to press, he was scheduled to meet Tommy Ayers on CBS on March 31), it is understandable that Brown and Davis look on with envy.

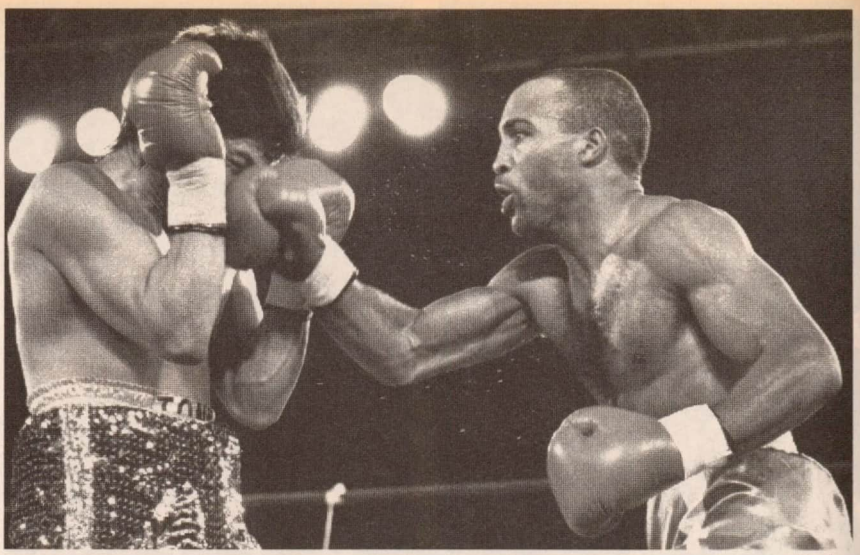
"It frustrates me," Brown said. "If McGirt thinks he can beat Simon Brown, he should have taken that fight."

Davis' handlers are more patient, maybe because the welterweight's perfect record aside, he is the one most often accused of being protected. At press time, Davis was scheduled to fight world-rated Jose Bermudez, and a bout with fellow New Yorker Breland has been talked about for some time. The rivals were rumored to be set to fight each other last year on network TV, but Duva claims none of the networks would accept Davis as an opponent for Breland. The Garden's side is that the deal fell through because of the lack of a television date.

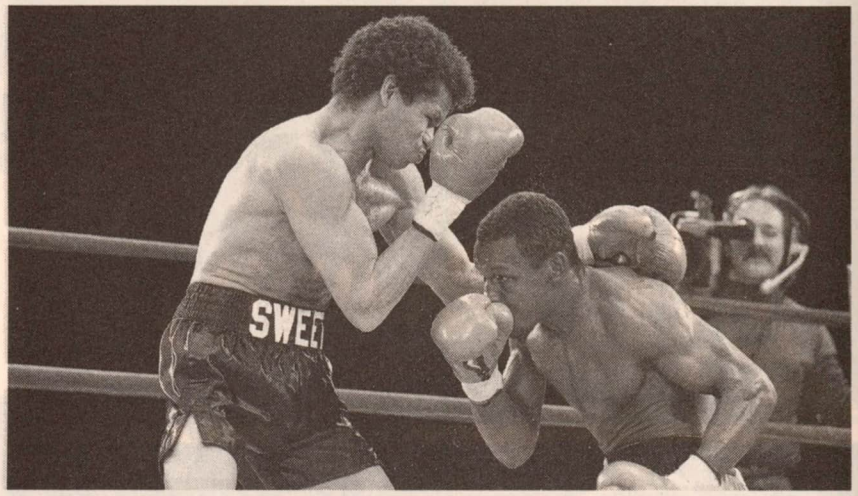
"I'm not mad with the Garden," said Bill Giles, Davis' co-manager. "They do the best they can, but I do know that Aaron would beat Glenwood or Buddy. He's too strong for Buddy, and he would outbox Glenwood. We just want any title shot we can get, at welterweight or even junior middleweight."

It's a good bet that at least one of the troika of Davis, McGirt, and Brown will secure a try at a world title sometime this year. Now that Breland has concluded his series of international title defenses, he's the likely candidate to fight one of them. It is hard to say how Davis would fare against Breland, but both Brown and McGirt would probably be very competitive with the WBA champion. The serpentine manner in which Simon Brown is being handled makes it impossible to predict whom he'll fight. With Marlon Starling moving up to fight middleweight king Michael Nunn, it's possible that the WBC belt could be up for grabs.

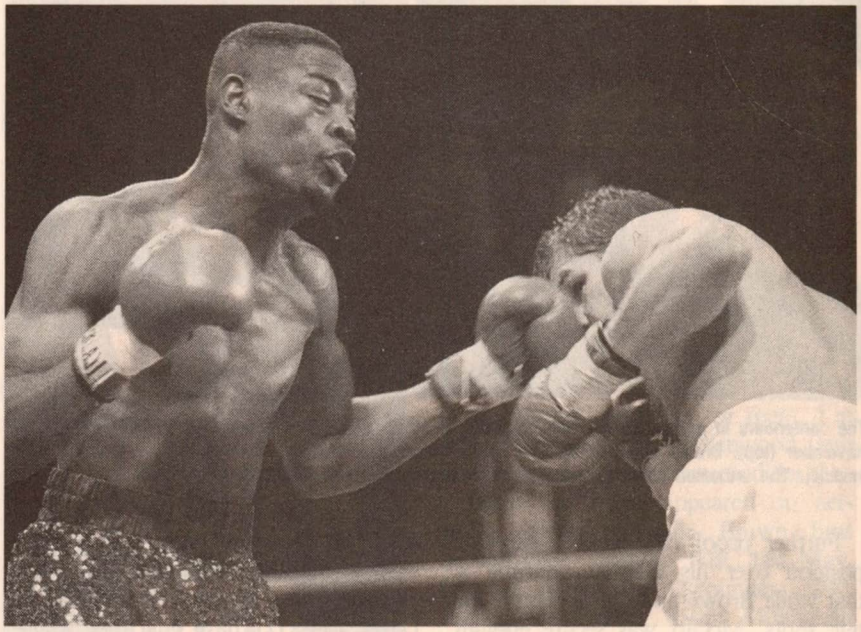
Realistically, McGirt is the most advanced of the Garden welters and has the best chance to defeat one of the reigning champions. But his reluctance to fight Simon Brown for $150,000 has left some wondering whether he would rather tackle either Breland, or whom-



In his first test at welterweight, McGirt had to rise from an early knockdown to outbox dangerous hooker Tony Baltazar. At 147 pounds, McGirt's power has been questioned. He has three kayos in six bouts.



In February 1989, Brown avenged his only defeat by outpointing veteran Saoul Mamby over 12 rounds. Eight months earlier, Mamby had shocked Brown by counterpunching his way to a 10-round decision win. Since that rematch, Brown's level of competition has steadily risen.



Davis' most recognizable victim was former junior welterweight champion Gene Hatcher. Davis outpointed the faded Texan in September 1989. In his next fight, "Superman" stopped California's Russell Mitchell to capture the NABF 147-pound crown. Like McGirt and Brown, Davis now seeks a world title.

Bobby Goodman, Madison Square Garden's vice president of boxing, is trying to satisfy McGirt, Brown, and Davis, his trio of top-10 welterweight contenders. At least one figures to receive a world title shot in 1990. At this point, McGirt, the senior member of the three, seems the most likely candidate.

ever winds up with the WBC belt should Starling remain in the 160-pound division.

"How can [McGirt's camp] whine about not getting a title shot when I offered them $150,000 to fight Simon Brown?" Duva asked. "It can't be the money, because they're not going to get more than that. I think he's just scared to fight Simon Brown."

Goodman agrees that the money wasn't the problem, but says McGirt and manager Al Certo felt it would be an insult to fight on the undercard of Camacho-Pazienza.

"We would fight Simon Brown for that money under different circumstances," Goodman said.

"Buddy is in demand for television fights and all that," Certo said. "Those guys [Camacho and Pazienza] are a bunch of clowns, and my guy is a real fighter, a proven boxer."

McGirt's workmanlike attitude surfaced last August, when he took a fight at the last minute against Scottish lefty Gary Jacobs. The bout, which McGirt won by decision, was televised by NBC as a replacement for a lightweight title fight between Edwin Rosario and Lupe Suarez. (Rosario fell out after hurting his hand.) Monaghan was able to convince Jacobs, who was lined up for a title shot against Breland, to take on McGirt. And he was also able to convince McGirt to square off against Jacobs, a potentially dangerous opponent with a growing reputation.

But while McGirt has earned his recognition the hard way, only recently have Brown and Davis gained some of the respect befitting their gaudy records. Brown's win over Santana proved his versatility, as he boxed successfully before moving in close to knock out his steel-chinned foe. But The Real Beast has had a turbulent career for a fighter with only one loss.

The only blemish on his record is losing a June 1988 decision to the ancient but still crafty Saoul Mamby, and he avenged the loss eight months later. But Brown has changed his fighting style with each of his three trainers. Under his first, John Davenport, Brown used his excellent strength to brawl inside. Then Brown switched to Edwin Viruet and he became the boring, safety-first boxer who fought Tiger. Now, Brown has hooked up with Victor Valle, and if the Santana bout is an accurate barometer, he will utilize whatever style is needed for a particular fight.

"I think Edwin wanted me to fight like *he* did," Brown said of the former world-class lightweight. "But now with Victor I can box *and* fight on the inside, which I like best."

Davis has shown a similar versatility, boxing from a distance with a solid jab and showing adequate strength during infighting. But Davis has been known to fight in spurts, showing flashes of superior talent one minute and looking like an ordinary fighter the next. It has been suggested that Davis has been unmotivated by his competition. Most of the recognizable names on his record were either too old, or fighting a bit over their best weight. Typical was former 140-pound champion Gene Hatcher, who retired after losing a dull decision to Davis last year. But Davis is confident in his own ability.

"I sparred with Buddy McGirt when I was still an amateur," he said. "He didn't show me anything. I think I'm too strong for most welterweights."

McGirt, Brown, and Davis all remain busy. While McGirt prepared for Ayers and Davis braced for Bermudez, Brown will probably next face highly regarded kayo bomber Engels Pedroza as soon as a TV date opens up. According to Goodman, Brown-Pedroza has already been approved by two of the networks.

"That's a fight I would love to see," Monaghan said. "Unfortunately, I don't have any investment in the welterweight division. But I really like Glenwood, and I love Pedroza."

Because of the major fights each has scheduled, the immediate future will reveal a lot more about the members of MSG's triple threat. But as all three remain on course for championship fights, they continue to have to detour around each other.

"The time we have the best value is when any one of them gets a world title," Goodman said. "If one of them had the title, I would run [the other two] at the champion. But until then, I don't feel we should be in that position."

And so it will remain that the only fight that Buddy McGirt, Glenwood Brown, and Aaron Davis are involved in together is against the impatience that comes with the wait to be granted a try at the top. □

Jeffrey Cohn is a freelance writer based on Long Island.

BATTLE OF THE LEGENDS

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Bob Foster

Albuquerque, New Mexico
1961-1978
56-8-1 with 46 kayos

Bob Foster, like Archie Moore before him, was deprived for years of a deserved title try by the champions who preceded him. He finally won the title by knocking out Dick Tiger with a single left hook. Foster reigned from May 1968 to June 1974, and made a division-record 14 title defenses.

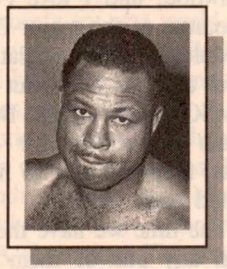
Most of Foster's kayos came in the early rounds. Of his first 11 defenses, 10 were by knockout, with eight coming inside of four rounds. The 6'3" champion had a seemingly endless jab and tremendous power in both hands. His knockout of Tiger, his second-round destruction of Vincente Rondon, and his fourth-round demolition of Mike Quarry will never be forgotten by those who witnessed them.

Although he never beat a legitimate heavyweight, Foster claims that as a middleweight on the 1959 Pan American team, he knocked down light heavyweight teammate Cassius Clay during a sparring session. According to Foster, Clay wouldn't have beaten a 10-count.

After voluntarily relinquishing the title, Foster fought only seven times in the next four years. In his last two bouts, he was counted out. It was an ignoble end to a great career.

Archie Moore

St. Louis, Missouri
1936-1963
183-22-9 with 129 kayos

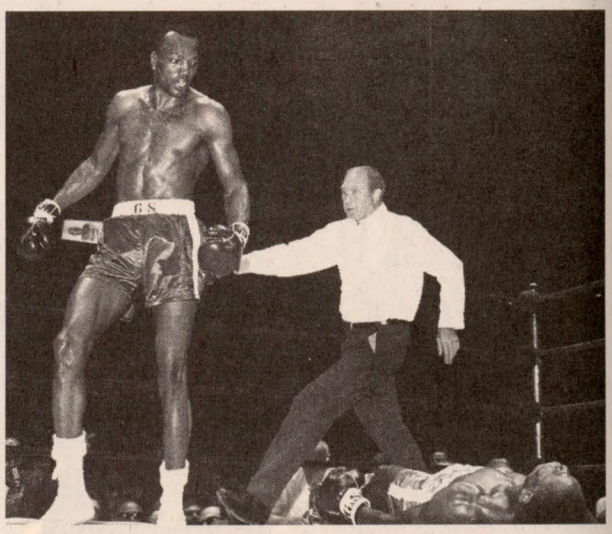


Archie Moore was a boxer-puncher in the most appropriate application of the term. His power stayed with him as he climbed from middleweight to light heavyweight, and then to his challenges for the heavyweight championship. His superior boxing ability enabled him to top many ranked heavyweights of his era. "The Mongoose" was considered the world's best light heavyweight five years before he received a title shot—at age 36.

In December 1962, Moore won the title via unanimous decision over Joey Maxim. He held the crown until June 1961, defending it nine times. Sandwiched in that span were two unsuccessful attempts at the heavyweight crown, against Rocky Marciano and Floyd Patterson. (Moore is one of only two men to ever knock down Marciano.) His December 1958 title defense against Yvon Durelle was one of the most exciting fights of all time. Moore, three days shy of his 46th birthday, was knocked down four times, thrice in the first round. But he came back and halted Durelle in the 11th.

This living legend ended his career in March 1963 with a knockout win over one Mike DiBiase. Four months before that, he suffered his last loss at the hands of a legend in the making—Cassius Clay.

Fight fans will forever debate the merits of champions from different ages. In "Battle Of The Legends," the editors of THE RING play matchmaker and pit two of the all-time greats against each other. Three experts serve as judges. If there are particular dream matches that you'd like to see featured, please write us

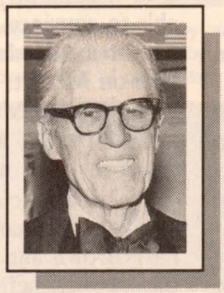


Foster's punching power was best evidenced by his title-fight annihilation of Dick Tiger in 1968. A single left hook finished Tiger in round four. Foster's power enabled him to score several quickie kayos.

DON DUNPHY

I've often wondered about those two. Both men were great fighters and they dominated their eras, although Moore was around much longer than Foster. And both had to wait awhile to get their shots at the light heavyweight title.

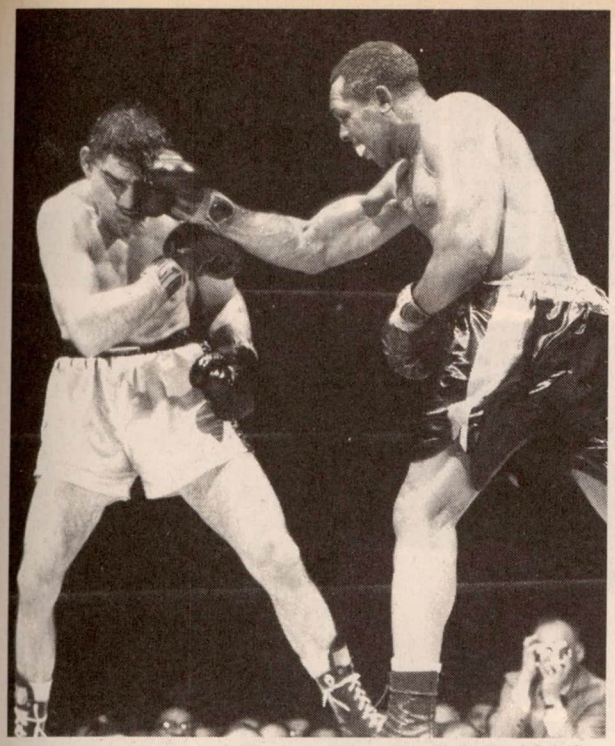
Foster was not a great boxer, but he had a heck of a punch. I'd give him the edge there. He won most of his title defenses with quick knockouts. But he lost his fights with good heavyweights. He just didn't stand up well against them. He got knocked out by Ernie Terrell, Doug Jones, Ali, and Frazier, although any light heavyweight would have been knocked out by Joe.



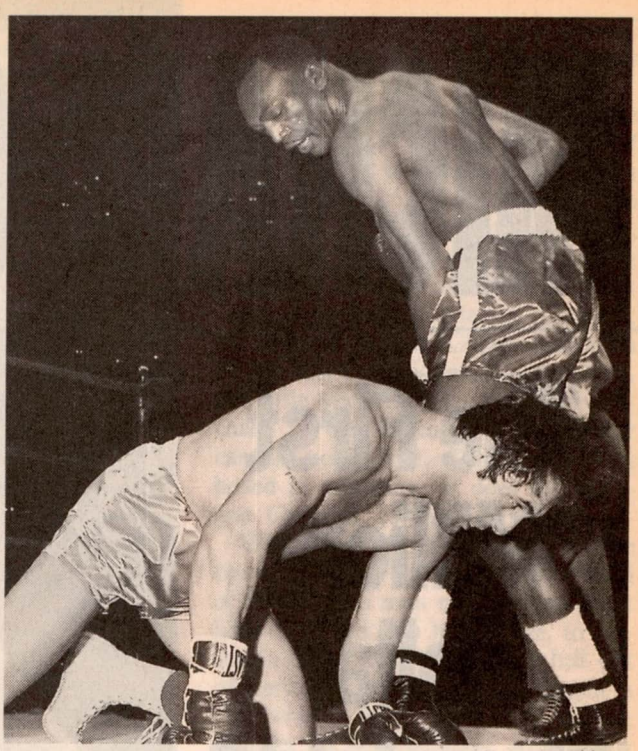
When Foster won his title, he beat a blown-up middleweight, Dick Tiger. Moore beat Joey Maxim, who had himself beaten some pretty tough heavyweights and lost a 15-round decision to Ezzard Charles for the championship. Moore was a great boxer. He was very clever and had good movement. Moore went the distance with Charles twice during the '40s, when neither could get a title shot. Moore also beat some good heavyweights of his era, like Jimmy Bivins and Clarence Henry. He also gave Rocky Marciano a tough time, even though he lost.

I believe Moore would take Foster's punch. He had a great chin. Moore was much more competitive with the bigger men than Foster. And that's the biggest difference between the two. The caliber of Moore's competition was far superior to Foster's. I think Moore would have knocked out Foster in the late rounds.

Don Dunphy has called hundreds of title fights on radio and television over the past 50 years. He is recognized as "The Voice of Boxing."



Moore, dominant well into his 40s, connects against Giulio Rinaldi during their 1961 title fight. Moore won on points in his last defense.

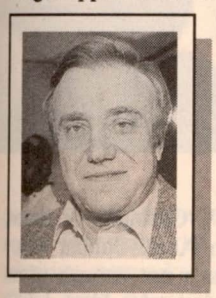


Frankie DePaula fell thrice in his 1969 title try vs. Foster. Before crashing in round one, DePaula made an error: He floored the proud titlist.

BILL MAZER

God, wouldn't that have been a great fight. Foster was a tremendous puncher. He destroyed the great Dick Tiger to win the title, and won most of his title defenses with early knockouts. But every time he moved up to heavyweight, he left his punch behind him. Foster was a decent boxer, and one of the all-time great light heavyweight champions, but in his fights against heavyweights—and they weren't *big* heavyweights—he always lost. Usually by knockout.

Moore, on the other hand, had tremendous power and a great chin. Both of these guys destroyed their light heavyweight opponents. But Archie faired better when he moved up to heavyweight. And when he moved up, he took his punch with him. He was beating ranked heavyweights in his late '30s and early '40s, and knocking some of them out. Archie could handle bigger men, and wouldn't have had problems with Foster.



When Moore challenged Rocky Marciano for the championship in '55, he was almost 42 years old, 12 years older than Rocky. He knocked Marciano down with a solid right in the second, then Rocky came back and eventually stopped him in the ninth. It was a good fight.

That's the big difference. I think Moore had more power and more savvy. It would have been a tremendous fight. But there is no way Foster could've stayed in there against a puncher like Moore. Archie would've knocked him out.

Bill Mazer is a veteran TV announcer who has called many title fights. He is a New York-based sports anchor for Fox News, and hosts a radio talkshow on WFAN.

BOBBY CASSIDY

Without a doubt they were the two best light heavyweights ever. They were so dominant, and had such great power at light heavy that no one considered it a mismatch when they challenged heavyweights.

Moore was a good boxer, and he stood the test of time. He easily handled his division, and he had a great chin. Archie faired better [than Foster] against heavyweights, but none of those guys weighed over 200 pounds.

Foster had a great right hand and a great left hook. He could take a guy out—out *cold*—with both punches. I can't think of another light heavy that hit as hard. And he could hurt guys while backing up. He left Dick Tiger and Mike Quarry and a few others unconscious. I was a ranked contender when Foster was champion. Like every fighter, I wanted a title shot. But I don't know of anyone that looked forward to fighting Foster.

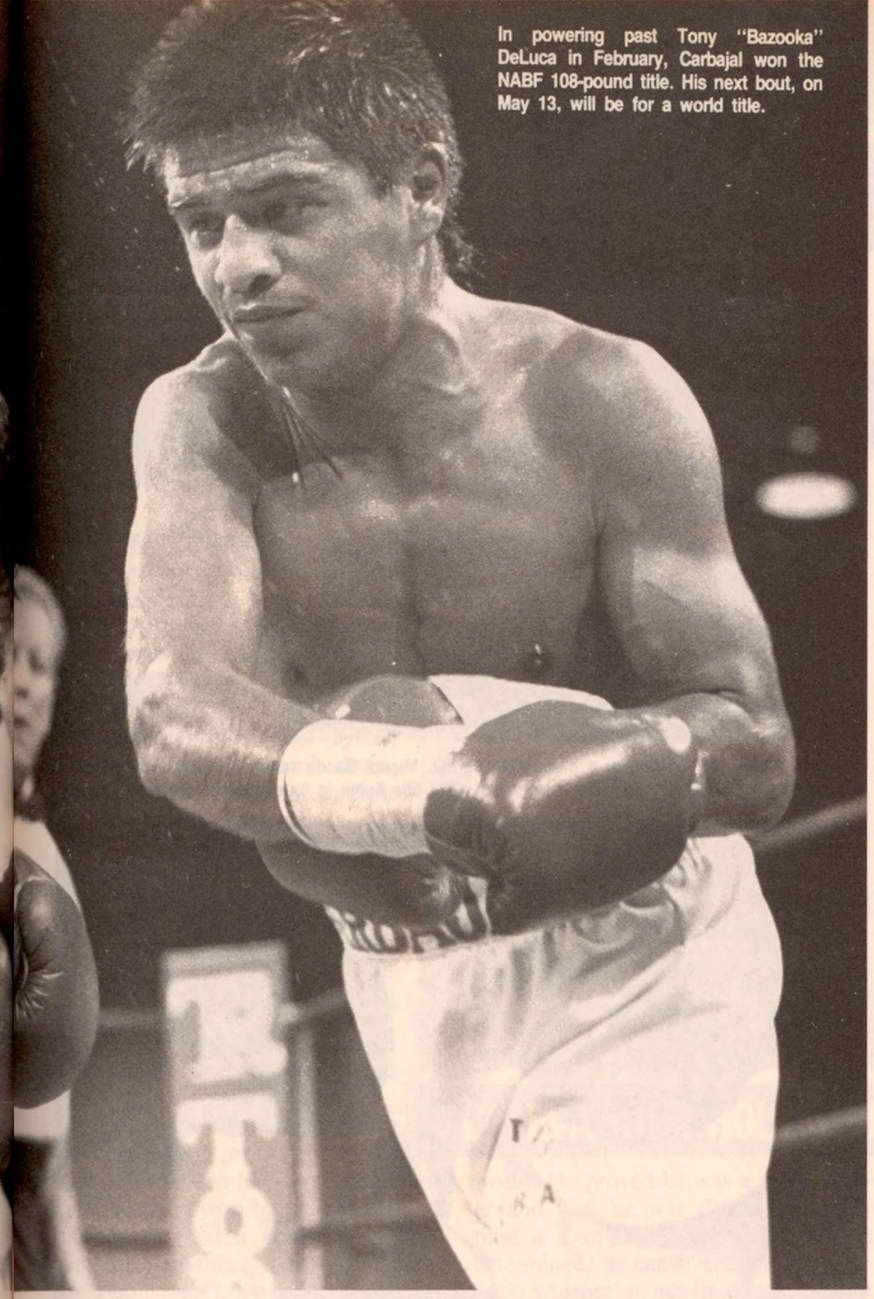
His height and his long reach were also great assests. I don't think he would have had a problem getting past Archie's hunched over, arms criss-crossed defensive style. I just don't see any light heavyweight staying in there with Bob. Had he come along a sooner, I think he would have knocked out Floyd Patterson. Foster would have gone right after Archie. And when he hurt Moore, he would have finished him. Bob Foster by early knockout.

Bobby Cassidy, a 175-pound contender during the '70s, now trains former light heavyweight champion Don Lalonde.

MICHAEL CARBAJAL

The First Million-Dollar Flyweight?

By Jeff Ryan



In powering past Tony "Bazooka" DeLuca in February, Carbajal won the NABF 108-pound title. His next bout, on May 13, will be for a world title.

Junior flyweights are neat little guys, they really are. Oops, did we say *little* again? See, that's just the point, they get no respect. When they're doing battle, they can never look good; they can only look good *for two little guys.* The 108-pounders are boxing's version of midget wrestlers. During their bouts, half the crowd sits waiting for one of the munchkins to run through the referee's legs after he's broken a clinch. The other half sits wondering what they're going to be when they grow up.

One reason the junior flyweights get no recognition is because they're hidden between the flyweights and strawweights. Flyweights weigh 112 pounds. Strawweights weigh 105. Junior flyweights sneak in at 108. But don't mistake the junior flyweight class for the *mini* flyweight class, which is the IBF's name for the strawweight class. Are you confused? So are most people. And what do people usually do when something confuses them? That's right, they try to ignore it.

Even the 108-pound *champions* get no respect. Do you even know who Muangshai Kittikasem is? No, he doesn't spin the hits on "Thai Top 40." He's the IBF junior flyweight titlist. His counterparts on the throne are Humberto Gonzales (WBC) and Yuh Myung Woo (WBA). Who? No, *Woo.* Talk about not being a household name. There's toiling in obscurity and then there's being one of *these* guys. It's just a fact of life that the champions of any division below bantamweight are perceived the way writer/editor Frank Deford once said sports scribes are viewed in the field of journalism: as the world's tallest midgets.

Michael Carbajal hopes to be different. In many ways, he already is. For starters, he's 5'5½", and unlike most junior flys, he meets the height requirement for the rides at Disneyland. In a division where the average warrior stands about 5'1", Carbajal, at times, looks like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar wearing lifts. As if that's not enough of an unfair advantage, he's also blessed with the ability to eat anything he wants—yes, *anything*—and never climb more than four pounds above his fighting weight.

"I love Italian and Mexican food," says the hungry Carbajal, whose record is 12-0, with seven opponents and three Taco Bells kayoed along the way. "Lasagna, spaghetti, green chillis, red chillis, beans, tacos, tostadas, tortillas . . . " Whoa, slow down, Michael. Two of your sparmates just put on 10 pounds *reading* this.

Carbajal is also different when it comes to television exposure. He has some. For years the three commercial television networks, ABC, NBC, and CBS, have been junior-fly swatters. Until ABC aired Carbajal's one-round kayo of Pedro Espinoza in 1989, only one 108-pound bout had ever aired on commercial TV (the Hilario Zapata-Joey Olivo WBC title fight in 1981). But if ABC likes the 22-year-old Carbajal, NBC absolutely adores him. Last November, The Peacock network signed him to a $700,000, three-fight deal. The second bout will be his challenge of Kittikasem on May 13.

"We really enjoy Carbajal," says Doug Kelly, a sports media representative for NBC. "His power is appealing. And he's not afraid to stick his nose in the middle of the action. He may get his nose whomped a bit, but he always whomps the other guy four times in return."

Bob Arum, Carbajal's promoter, has caused more than a few double takes while lavishing praise on his little big man.

"Michael will be the first junior flyweight to earn $1-million for one fight," he says. "He has the charisma to popularize the division."

"My goal is to change around the image of the little guys," Carbajal adds. "People will start to learn that we can fight as good as big guys, and with power, too. We put up more exciting fights than the big guys because we're more active. We throw a lot more punches."

Carbajal's odyssey toward what he hopes will be the eventual capturing of titles in *four* divisions—if the tacos eventually stick to him—began 16 years ago in Phoenix. In those days, the Carbajals' idea of family bonding was to sit ringside together and duck flying mouthpieces. Manuel Carbajal, an Arizona Golden Gloves champion in the '40s, took his sons Danny, Alex, and little Michael (make that *littler* Michael) to every local pro or amateur card he could find. (Danny and Alex boxed as amateurs, as does the youngest Carbajal, 19-year-old Angel.)

While many six-year-olds might have been frightened by the sight of blood or the sound a man makes when a left hook is buried into his ribcage, to Michael, this stuff sure beat the hell out of Kermit the Frog trying to wrestle a Fig Newton away from The Cookie Monster on *Sesame Street.* After a few prelims, he wasn't begging his father to take him home, but to let him start punching people in the mouth himself.

Though he was told he'd have to wait a few years, his desire never waned. By the time he was nine, Carbajal was buying boxing magazines, opening them up to the pages of the champions, and copying pictures of their title belts on a piece of paper. He'd then cut out the belts and wear them around his waist as he paraded around the house.

"Sometimes we'd have little bouts in the backyard," says Danny, who now serves as his brother's manager and trainer. "Michael and the other neighborhood kids would wear 20-ounce gloves and they'd box for a cardboard belt we had that said 'WORLD CHAMPION' on it."

Though both Danny and Alex had learned firsthand what a longshot a successful fighting career is, they never discouraged their young brother from his pursuits. Better that he fight in the backyard, they figured, than in the frontyard. For at the time, the Carbajals' 9th Street neighborhood, and the surrounding areas, like Central Park, and Garfield, and the Duppa Villa projects, were becoming hotbeds of gang activity.

"It was really bad," Michael recalls. "The gangs were mainly Hispanic. They called themselves *cholos.* They wore baggy clothes and had their hair slicked back, and had bandanas that almost covered their eyes. They got into fights all over the place."

When Carbajal was 13, any temptation he may have had to run the streets with the *cholos* was driven from his mind with one blast of gunfire. He was at the home of one of Alex' friends, a gang member, when suddenly there was a commotion outside. Carbajal raced from the house to see Alex' friend laying on the sidewalk, the victim of a drive-by shooting by a rival gang.

"It was terrible," he says. "They were pumping his heart to revive him, but he ended up dying."

A year later, Carbajal, all 65 pounds of him, had his first amateur bout. He lost a decision, but displayed an intensity that neither Danny nor Alex ever seemed to possess in their fistic careers.

"He showed me a lot of determination and a lot of instinct," says Danny. "The other kid had more experience, but in the third round, Michael connected with a right hand and made the kid back off. Before I could even yell to him, Michael *ran* after the kid. No style or anything, he just ran. Right after he lost, he said, 'I wanna fight him again.' I could see how much he wanted to be a fighter."

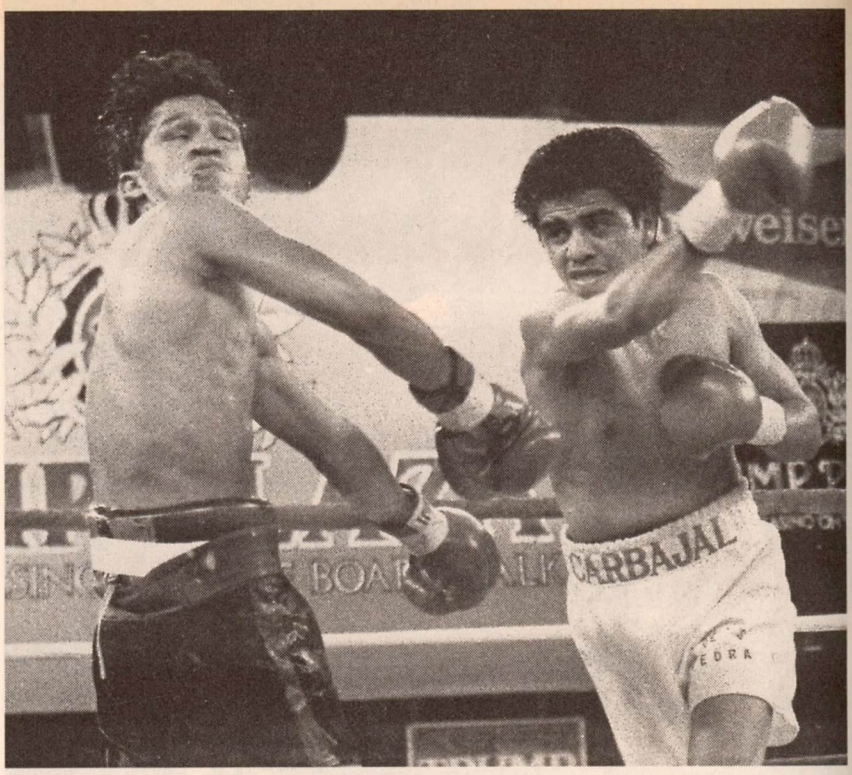
So impressed was Danny that he spent the next week turning the family garage into Gleason's Gym West. The place is still as blue-collar as the day it was finished, with turnbuckles made of rags and a ring floor consisting of layers of carpeting. Michael still trains there regularly, though he shifts training camp to the sparkling confines of Phoenix' LaMancha Athletic Club and Resort Hotel when it's time to spar.

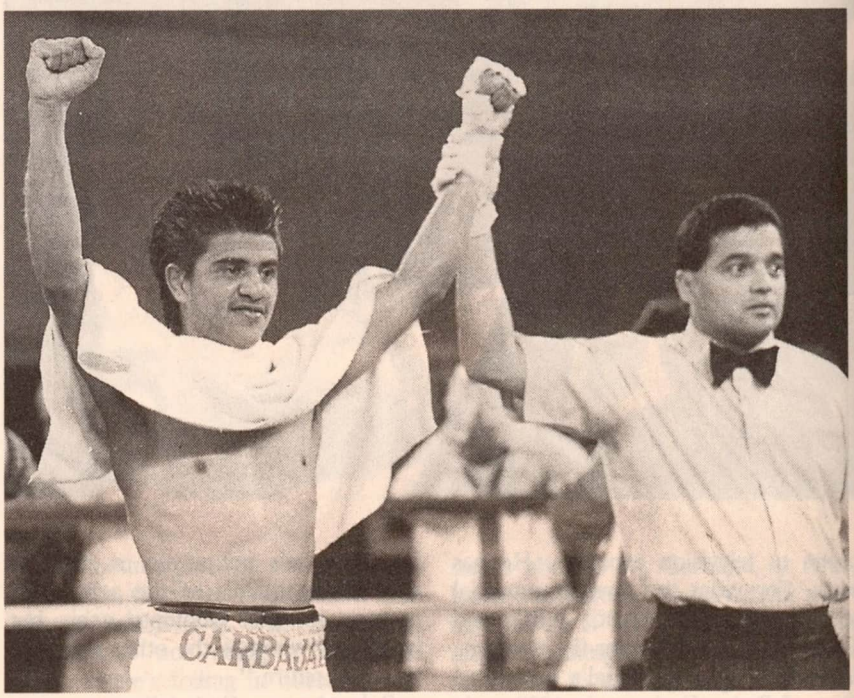
Says the unpretentious Carbajal, "I like it better in the garage."

It takes an awful lot to faze this kid. Carbajal left the 1988 Olympics with a silver medal, and despite the fact that many observers thought he won his bout with Bulgaria's Ivalo Hristov in the finals, to this day, he hasn't experienced a moment of regret.

"I thought I won the fight," he says matter-of-factly, "but it was real close. I wasn't disappointed to where it discouraged me or anything. It wasn't a real bad decision like [teammate] Roy Jones got. I was confident I'd win the gold, but I was happy with the silver. Besides, being a professional world champion was always my goal."

After just 14 months as a pro, and before any of his '88 Seoul brothers get thier shots, he'll now have the chance to fulfill that goal. Ironically, Carbajal's unprecedented exposure at junior flyweight is actually working against him for the first time. Because





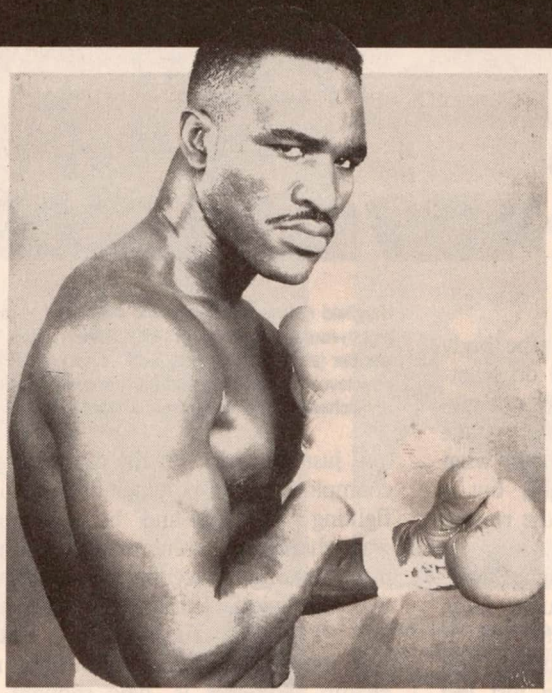
Carbajal's power has made him a marketable fighter. Miguel Banda tasted the contender's cross in January (above). Carbajal wants his hand raised after title fights in four different divisions (below).

he has been seen on TV as both an Olympian and a pro, the camp of Kittikasem has quite a few tapes to study in preparation. The Carbajals, on the other hand, will be entering the bout without ever having seen the champion throw a punch.

"It concerns me," admits Danny, "because we can't work on any certain strategy. So we're working on everything. When they get in the ring, Michael will have to adapt right away. He'll have to see how the other guy commits himself, where he leaves openings. He'll have to find a weakness and figure things quickly."

For a kid who figured out what he wanted to be when he was six years old, figured out how to wear a title belt when he was nine, and figured out how to avoid the *cholos* on the Phoenix streets and the prejudices against little guys in the ring, how difficult can that be? □

"I'm Hungrier Than Ever Before!"



BY EVANDER HOLYFIELD

It's always a thrill to fight the heavyweight champion of the world, and that has been my main goal since I've been a heavyweight. And I know I will get that opportunity. That's why, when I was sitting ringside in Tokyo watching Buster Douglas beat Mike Tyson, I didn't get upset. I wasn't disappointed at all. I just want to fight the heavyweight champion.

I didn't wish it was me in there, because I realize that it wasn't my turn. It was Douglas' turn. I always figure that the best man will win. Douglas proved that there are a lot of good fighters in the heavyweight division, and that a lot of people underestimated the talent in the division because of Mike Tyson.

This was the first time I ever saw Tyson—as a pro—fight somebody who stuck to his game plan. People wonder if Tyson had a bad night. I know Buster had a *good* night, so I can't take anything away from him. But Tyson *didn't* have a good night, and that could be because Douglas fought his fight the *entire* fight.

Buster showed no fear, and that's the number-one thing in beating Tyson. He went out and proved he had the skills and desire. Douglas was able to put things together. Round-by-round, Douglas came out and controlled the fight with his jab and movement.

But Tyson showed the desire a champion should have. He was getting hit with good shots throughout the fight. He proved he could take punishment as well as give it out.

I've known Mike since the amateurs. And when he didn't make the Olympic team, he bounced back and won the heavyweight championship of the world. He proved he was a hard worker and that he was determined. Any time a man's a hard worker and is determined, he can overcome setbacks.

So whether or not he comes back, it doesn't matter to me who I fight. What does bother me is that Douglas isn't living up to a contract that says he has to fight me in June. Just because the man is the heavyweight champion, he feels he doesn't have to play by the rules anymore. That's poor sportsmanship.

If you really let something affect you, then it will. But the delay has given me time work on different skills. It has also made me hungrier than ever. I'm ready, but I just have to be patient.

Hopefully, my promoter and manager can come up with some kind of deal where I can have at least one bout if the Douglas fight is gonna be held after September. I'm the type of fighter that likes to stay busy. I love boxing and I want to stay active. I'm not getting any younger.

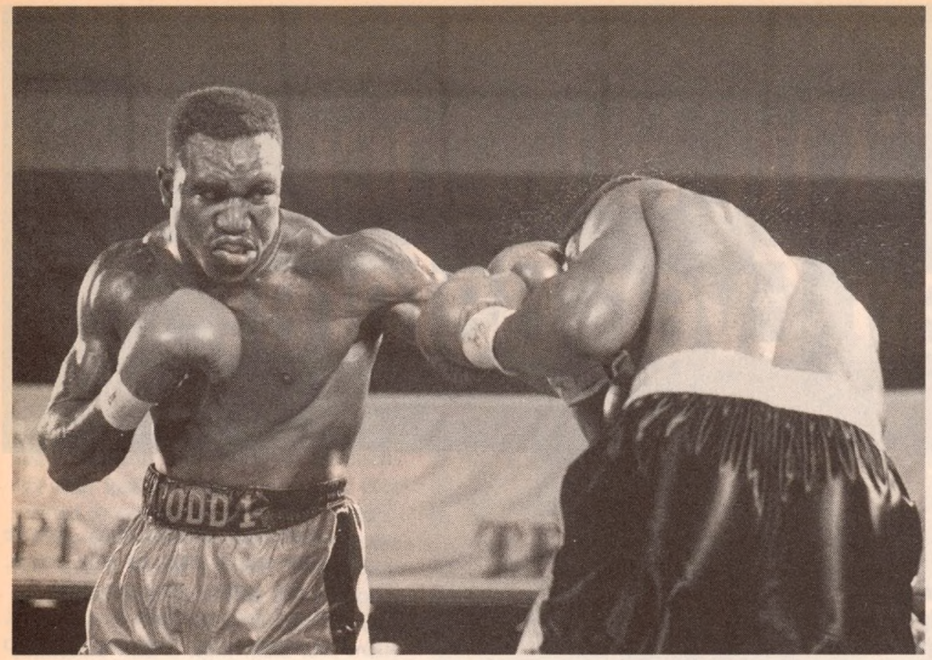
But I feel no fight is a tuneup. The same thing that happened to Tyson can happen to anyone. That's boxing. Everybody saw the Douglas fight as a tuneup for Tyson. But Buster didn't have anything to lose because most people thought he was gonna get knocked out in a minute. The fans weren't counting rounds, they were counting time.

But here was a man eager to prove he wasn't a tuneup. He wanted to prove he was a serious challenger, and that he was as much of a man as Tyson. When you have a guy that has talent and feels that way, it's gonna be a tough fight.

A lot of people saw Alex Stewart as a tuneup for me because of my record and my prior performances. They thought I should've knocked him out earlier. Everyone felt the only person who could give me a challenge was Tyson, so Stewart was overlooked. But my mind wasn't on Tyson. When you have a young man like Stewart who trains hard, has a good amateur background, and has worked steady throughout his pro career, he's gonna be tough.

But opinions don't matter to me. It's the fighters in the ring that matter, because we're the ones that have to do what it takes to win. And I think what it takes to beat Douglas is punching to the body.

I would attack his body because he's a very smart fighter. It's hard to hit smart fighters in the head often, because they won't usually get hit by the same blows over and over. They're smart enough to give you different angles.



Holyfield remained number-one contender with an eighth-round stoppage of Alex Stewart last November (above). "The Real Deal" says he reached new levels in that fight and his 10-round knockout of Michael Dokes the previous March. (right).

I feel you have to attack the body more than the head. But I'll do whatever it takes. If he's suddenly not giving you the body, you have to take something else. It's hard to say what you'll actually do in a fight, but a smart fighter can change as the rounds go.

The first time I saw Douglas fight, in 1986 in Atlanta, he fought Greg Page, and he beat Page real well. It was an easy fight for Douglas, and Page was hot then. He had just lost the title to Tony Tubbs. Then I saw Douglas fight Tony Tucker, and he just quit.

Skill-wise, I knew he had the ability. But if you have ability with no desire, or desire with no ability, you won't win. You need a combination of both. For the Tyson fight, he had that combination.

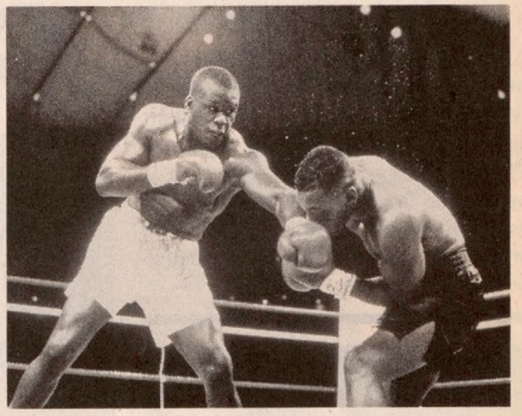
I feel when you fight better people, sometimes you just fight better. The first time I fought Dwight Muhammad Qawi, I did all I possibly could. But I always questioned myself after it. I was impressed with the victory and everything I did, because I did things that I didn't think I could do. But I also always wondered whether or not I could top that performance.

It takes a great fighter to elevate you. Not just any fighter. If you don't have to use what's inside of you, you won't. And it took me all the way to my fight with Michael Dokes (in March 1989) to surpass the Qawi fight. When I fought Dokes, it took me to another level.

I just want to be the heavyweight champion. It never entered my mind fighting Douglas, and before Tyson was champion, it never entered my mind fighting him, either. When Tyson *was* champion, I'd look at him and say, "I want to fight Tyson." But it was more like I wanted to fight the champ. The fact is, who thought he was gonna lose? Now when you talk about the heavyweight champion, you're talking about Buster Douglas. And I still have the same attitude: I want to fight the champ. The name has just changed. I don't have nothing against nobody. I just don't want to lose my opportunity to fight for the heavyweight championship of the world.

I don't look at it like, "I'm glad Tyson lost because it was good for the game." His loss just shows you that in the history of boxing, an individual might be the best for a period of time, but there's always someone looking to dethrone him. That makes the game of boxing turn. That's the nature of the game. There's always gonna be different champions. No guy is gonna be champ forever. If you think you'll be champ forever, then hang it up, because someone, or something, is gonna catch up with you.

I would love for my title fight to take place as soon as possible, but I have an open mind. I'm not gonna let



Holyfield believes Buster Douglas was successful against Mike Tyson because he stuck to his fight plan. The way to beat Douglas, Holyfield believes, is to punch to the body.

time frustrate me to the point of doing something that's not smart, like going on TV and crying about how bad I want to fight for the title, or saying what I'm going to do when the fight comes. That's not right for my image.

There was so much controversy after the Tyson-Douglas fight. There was talk that I wasn't gonna fight in June. Then they said I'd be paid money. We never agreed on a step-aside fee. Of course that sounds good, but then somebody is putting you away for another year. It's not good for me to wait another year. I don't want to do that. I could be the champion and fight both of them in a year.

But I'm ready to fight the heavyweight champion right now. □

Compiled By Stanley Weston

With files of more than three million black-and-white and color negatives, *The Ring* magazine photo collection is by far the largest in the world. Each issue, we'll pour through the files to bring you some of the most unique boxing photographs ever taken

TEMPERED STEEL

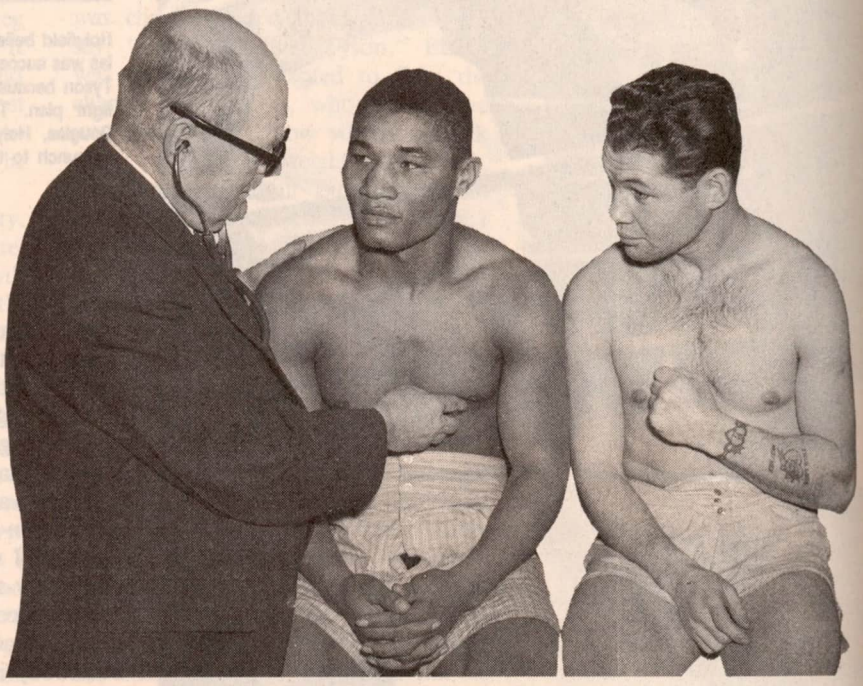
(June 10, 1948)

No fighter more perfectly fitted his nickname than Tony Zale, Gary, Indiana's "Man of Steel." At age 35, the indomitable Zale astonished even his most ardent supporters when he regained the world middleweight crown from Rocky Graziano in one of the most savage bouts of all time. Only 11 months before, Graziano had brutalized defending champion Zale before stopping him in six rounds, stripping Tony of his crown. It was understandable that when a return Zale-Graziano fight was announced by promoter Mike Jacobs, both the fans and the press turned their thumbs down. After that agonizing beating Rocky had administered to Tony the year before, and considering that Zale was nine years older than the exuberant Graziano, what logical reason was there for a return bout? But promoter Jacobs' instincts prevailed. He firmly believed there was a lot more fight in the Man of Steel than anybody believed. And Jacobs was right. More than 25,000 fans jam-packed Ruppert Stadium in Newark, New Jersey, to see Tony and Rocky go head to head again for the middleweight title. And the fans left with no regrets. Why? Because they had the privilege of viewing one of boxing's most unforgettable performances, which concluded when, at 1:08 of round three, Zale exploded a terrific left hook to Graziano's chin that paralyzed Rocky. This picture shows Zale after his victory.

FIVE AGAINST ONE

(April 26, 1975)

After losing the world heavyweight title to Muhammad Ali in Zaire in 1974, George Foreman correctly concluded that he needed a spectacular gimmick to get his derailed career back on track. So why not take on five opponents, one at a time, all on the same night? Pictured (left to right): Pedro Acosta, Boone Kirkman, Foreman, Mac Foster, and Terry Daniels. (The fifth foe, Alonso Johnson, couldn't make the prefight press conference that was staged in New York City.) Why was the press conference held in New York and not Toronto, where the "bouts" were to take place? Media hype, of course. Foreman went through the motions against all five fighters, with a 15-minute rest period between each exhibition. But not all the targeted heavyweights in this photo showed up for battle. Acosta and Foster didn't appear. They were replaced by Charlie Polite and Jerry Judge. Big George plodded for a total of 12 rounds on that unhistoric occasion. When reminded of that Toronto night after he kayoed Gerry Cooney, Foreman shook his bald head and grunted, "That Toronto thing was worth a shot. But it really bombed." It sure did.



BEAU AND BUMMY

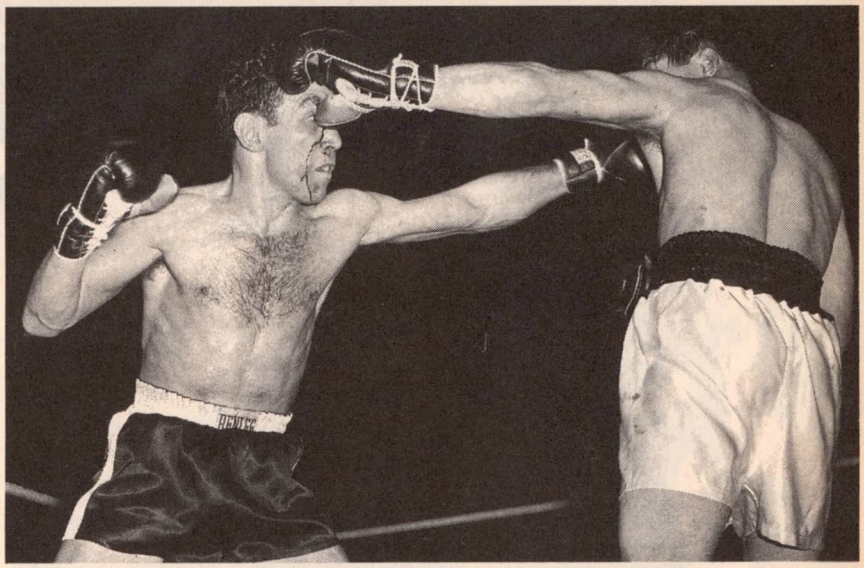
(March 17, 1944)

The bout generated a surprising amount of interest: Could Beau Jack, who had lost his world lightweight crown to Bob Montgomery only two weeks before, withstand "Bummy" Davis' murderous left hook? A capacity crowd filled Madison Square Garden on that sultry spring night to find the answer. The bookmakers, who had made Beau a 5-4 betting favorite, proved correct when Jack won a 10-round decision. Only five months later, Beau decisioned the man who had stripped him of his crown, Montgomery, in a 10-round non-title bout.

FROZEN IN TIME

(July 4, 1910)

Thousands of pictures were snapped by an army of ringside photographers at the historic Jack Johnson-Jim Jeffries world heavyweight championship fight in Reno, Nevada. But this extremely rare photographic treasure is much more than just another picture; the photographer who captured it must have invented, or had access to, the secret of a super-fast film that could freeze action to about 1/500th of a second. When you consider that strobe photography wasn't perfected until the late '50s, more than 40 years after this remarkable picture was taken, the mystery becomes even more intriguing. As for the fight, champion Johnson knocked out original white hope Jeffries in the 15th round to retain the title.



EYE SURGERY

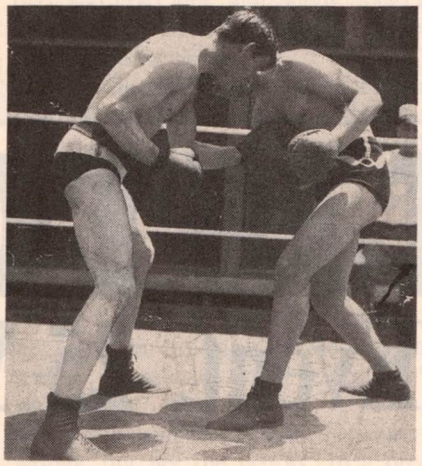
(March 1955)

It was said of Willie Pep that he could thread a needle with his thumb—even when his thumb was encased inside a boxing glove. And many of the 242 opponents Pep fought in his historic 26-year career will gladly swear to that allegation. But on March 30, 1955, in a bout with Gil Cadilli at Parks Air Force Base in San Francisco, former world featherweight champion Pep (left) more than met his master in the fine art of "thumb-in-the-eye surgery," as this dramatic picture proves. Willie, who had lost his crown to Sandy Saddler four years before, lost to Cadilli on a 10-round decision. But two months later, in May 1955, he outpointed Cadilli in 10 rounds in Detroit. The loss to Cadilli in San Francisco was one of only five decisions hall-of-famer Pep lost in his entire career.

MAULER'S MOM

(September 1929)

During a cross-country business trip, former heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey stopped off in Denver to visit his 69-year-old mother. The "Manassa Mauler's" mom, whose maiden name was Mary Pricilla Smoot, was born in Logan County, West Virginia, on July 12, 1860. Dempsey scholars have concluded that she had "less than 50 percent American Indian blood in her veins."



GENTLEMAN JIM

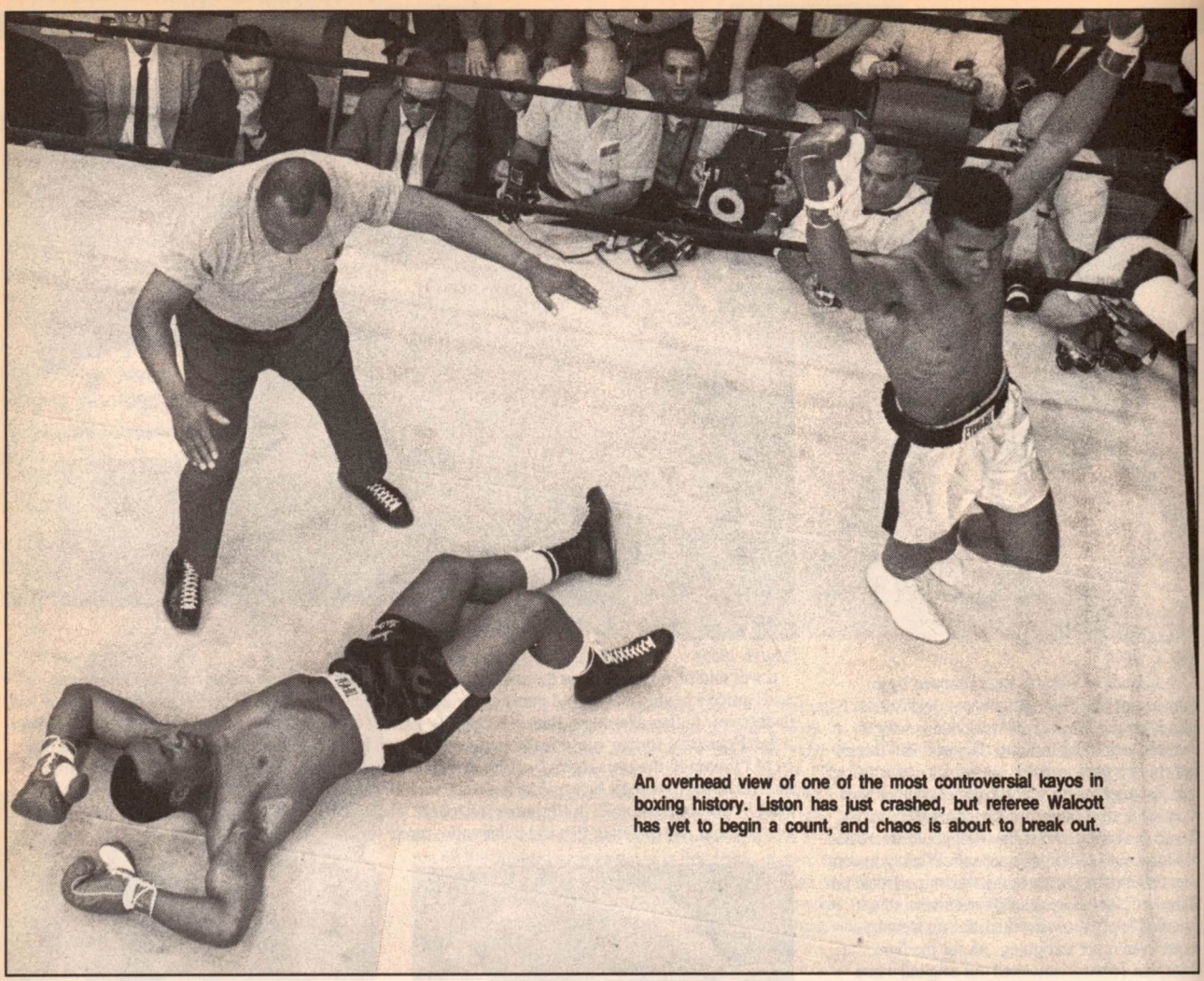
(October 1898)

After losing his world heavyweight championship to Bob Fitzsimmons in their historic bout at Carson City, Nevada, on St. Patrick's Day in 1897, the 31-year-old James J. Corbett officially announced his ring retirement. But within seven months after losing to Fitzsimmons, the idolized "Gentleman Jim" proclaimed a comeback. This rare picture shows Corbett (left) sparring with an unidentified partner at Jim's Training Camp near New York City, where the former champion prepared for his comeback fight with "Sailor" Tom Sharkey. Corbett lost to Sharkey on a ninth-round foul. But the defeat did not end Gentleman Jim's fabled ring career. Twice again would he try to regain the heavyweight crown he had wrested from the legendary John L. Sullivan in 1892. But it was not to be. Jim was knocked out in both attempts by defending champion Jim Jeffries. Corbett finally retired for good in 1903, at age 37.

A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE

(December 1969)

When heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali refused to be inducted into the United States Army during the Vietnam War because of religious reasons, a barrage of "doors" slammed shut in his face. This picture was taken in the champ's suite at New York City's Wellington Hotel immediately after he received a depressing phone call from Tampa, Florida, notifying him that officials had rejected their city as a proposed site for an Ali-Joe Frazier title fight. Quipped one Tampa offficial, "First fight the real fight, in Nam! Then we'll talk about your fight in Tampa." It wasn't until March 8, 1971, in Madison Square Garden, that Ali finally squared off with reigning champion "Smokin' " Joe. Frazier won by 15-round decision, issuing Ali his first loss.



An overhead view of one of the most controversial kayos in boxing history. Liston has just crashed, but referee Walcott has yet to begin a count, and chaos is about to break out.

ALI-LISTON II

The Maine Event, 25 Years Later

By Steve Farhood

"CASSIUS FACED DEATH." The headline jumped out at the readers of the *New York Journal-American* on November 14, 1964. Only two days before his scheduled heavyweight title fight rematch against Sonny Liston, Cassius Clay, aka Muhammad Ali, underwent emergency surgery for a hernia.

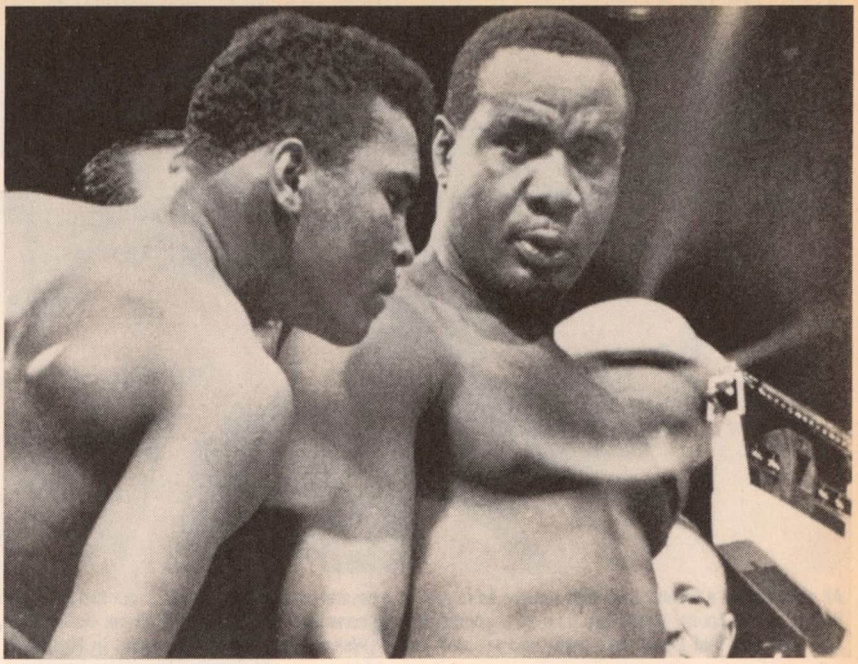
"The lump formed by the intestine pushing through that hole [in the abdominal wall] was about the size of a lemon," said Dr. Nathan Shapiro of the Massachusetts State Boxing Commission.

Liston's camp immediately doubted the validity of the excuse and later claimed Ali ducked out after sending a spy to Sonny's training camp and discovering what fantastic condition the former champion was in.

The 11th-hour postponement was only one of a series of bizarre twists that distinguished the Ali-Liston rematch as the oddest heavyweight title fight of all time.

Ali-Liston II was rescheduled for May 25, 1965, in Boston. But it wasn't going to be that easy. Less than three weeks before the fight date, Garrett Byrne, Boston's district attorney, kicked the fight out of the state because the promoter, Inter-Continental Promotions Inc., had no license in Massachusetts.

"I've been in promoting all my life," said Sam Michaels, a native of Auburn, Maine, who, at age 84, recalls the details of Ali-Liston II as if it were 25 days, not 25 years, ago. "When I saw they cancelled the fight in Boston, I called a friend in Louisville [Ali's hometown]. I was told they were committed to that date of May 25. A week later I was at a speaking engagement, and someone gave me a note to call Cleveland as soon as possible. So I did, and I was asked if I could pull it off in 2½ weeks. I said yes. I never



A well-conditioned Liston wasn't happy when the bout was postponed (above). At the weigh-in, Liston seems befuddled by Ali's interest (right).

said no in my life. I always accept challenges."

And so the rematch landed at the Central Maine Youth Center in Lewiston, Maine, a faded industrial town with a population of 41,006 and a 24-year-old mayor who supplemented his income by hosting a French-language radio show. The mayor, Robert Couturier, said, "I find [boxing] brutal. I will not be at the fight unless I absolutely have to."

Welcome to Lewiston.

There were endless problems. Ticket sales went slowly. (The crowd would number 2,434.) A 20-foot boxing ring had to be shipped from Baltimore at the 11th hour because Angelo Dundee discovered that the original squared circle was a 16-foot wrestling ring with loose boards and no braces.

The prefight chaos, however, reached preposterous proportions when it was rumored that defectors of the Muslim faith, seeking to avenge the assassination of Malcolm X, were en route to Lewiston to murder Ali. More than 300 local police, state troopers, firemen, and civil defense workers were brought in as security. On fight night, male fans were frisked, and the pocketbooks of female fans were searched.

"They're coming after him, ain't they?" Liston wondered aloud.

Ali, however, showed no fear. According to Al Braverman, who worked as Liston's camp coordinator, the only fighter who was scared in Lewiston was the challenger.

"The guy [Ali] had a whammy on him," Braverman said. "We're driving to the weigh-in, just Sonny and me, and outside the Commission office, in the street, Ali is walking back and forth with a bear trap. [Ali referred to Liston as "The Bear."] I say to Sonny, 'Let's call him over to the car and we'll pull him in through the window and let his feet dangle. So I call him over and grab him, and Sonny doesn't lift an arm. I knew then that s____ was running down his leg."

It can be argued that had Ali-Liston II come off on schedule, it would have been a competitive bout. Liston trained with diligence until the postponement. But when the fight was pushed back six months, "Sonny was disgusted," according to Liston cornerman Milt Bailey. In Boston, Liston scaled 209½. At the weigh-in in Lewiston, however, he had risen to 215¼. "He was in terrific shape, and then he lost it," Bailey said.

Liston's condition swayed the sportswriters, but not the bettors. In a prefight poll of the media, Ali was favored by a count of 71-48. But Liston answered the opening bell as the 6-5 betting choice. The bout inspired only modest gambling interest, which punctures a huge hole in the argument of those who maintain that it was fixed.

After Canadian singer Robert Goulet set the tone by forgetting the words to the National Anthem, referee Jersey Joe Walcott, who was picked over Barney Felix (the third man of the first fight), gave prefight instructions, and the battle was on.

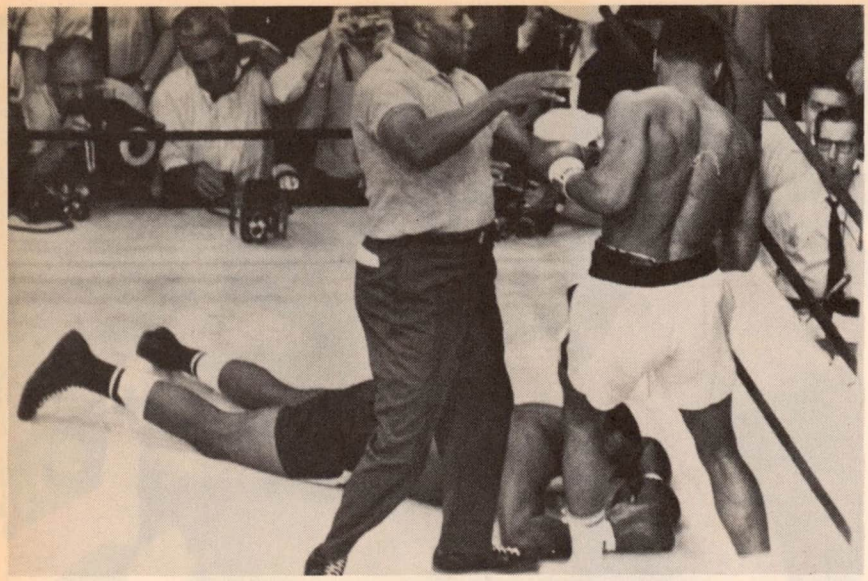
Setting what had to be an unofficial record, Ali retained the title after landing only three blows, none of which was a jab. The first was a lead right that the champion fired seconds after the opening bell. The second, a right hand that connected about 30 seconds before the knockout, seemed to shake the suddenly aged Liston.

"[Liston] blinked his eyes three times, like he was trying to clear his head," Chicky Ferrara, an Ali cornerman, told *Sports Illustrated* after the fight, "and I looked at Willie Reddish [Liston's trainer]. I could see Reddish looked sick because he knew his fighter was in trouble."

Punch three, the so-called "phantom punch," came after Liston jabbed at a backtracking Ali. His hands by his sides, Ali leaned away and countered with a chopping right that landed on Liston's temple. (Ever creative, Ali explained to the press that the right had been a copy of Jack Johnson's "anchor punch," and had been taught to him by comic Stepin Fetchit, a member of his swelling entourage. Those who checked the boxing files, however, found no mention of Johnson having an "anchor punch.") Then he followed with a hook that missed because Liston, his left leg lifted inches off the floor by Ali's right, was already sinking to the canvas.

Liston fell and then rolled over until his lips were close enough to kiss the mat. He climbed to his knees before collapsing again. Ali, meanwhile, stood over his fallen foe and screamed, "Get up and fight, sucker!"

Ali danced over Liston and refused to retreat to a neutral corner. As a result, a disconcerted Walcott never picked up the count of the knockdown. Timekeeper Frank McDonough,



Ali stands over a fallen Liston and refuses to retreat to a neutral corner. As a result, a confused Walcott fails to start a count. After more than 20 seconds, Walcott consulted with timekeeper Frank McDonough, who told him that Liston had been counted out—twice! Walcott then raised Ali's hand in triumph.

a 64-year-old retired local printer, was pounding on the canvas with a gavel, but didn't have a microphone at his disposal.

"I missed the count and didn't know nuthin' about it till I heard Fleischer," said Walcott.

"Fleischer" was Nat Fleischer, the publisher of *The Ring* magazine, who was seated next to McDonough. With Liston about to rise, Walcott turned his back to the fighters and approached McDonough and Fleischer, who had summoned the referee. McDonough informed Jersey Joe that he had counted to 10, shouted "out," let his watch run two more seconds, and then didn't stop it again until 20 seconds had elapsed.

"I counted him out twice," said McDonough.

Walcott returned to ring center,

(Continued on page 70)

DID LISTON TAKE A DIVE?

Was the Ali-Liston rematch on the level? In May 1965, the media seemed split. *Sports Illustrated's* Jim Murray wrote, "Sonny Liston got the hell beat out of him is what happened."

In contrast, Dick Young of the New York *Daily News* wrote, "He hit him. The slow motion rerun proved that, but chances are you've hit your wife harder. His acting was so bad, it was funny. There was that big hulk squirming on the canvas from a love tap."

A quarter-century has passed since those words were penned. We asked some of those who observed the fight at ringside for their current opinions.

Angelo Dundee, trainer (Ali's chief second): "After the knockout, I walked toward Sonny, who I knew well. I said, 'Hey, tough luck.' He just looked through me. He was *out!* Ali *stopped* Liston. Sonny just didn't see the punch."

Sam Michaels, retired promoter (co-promoter of the bout): "I was sitting about fifth row of the stadium seats. I saw the punch. There's no question there was a punch on the cheek. I think it was legitimate."

Milt Bailey, cutman (Liston cornerman): "You seen what happened to Tyson. If you're hit right, you'll go down. Sonny got hit, went down, got up, and the fight continued on. When we got back to the dressing room, he asked me for smelling salts, so I guess it was legitimate. Sonny wasn't the kind of guy who cried if he won or lost."

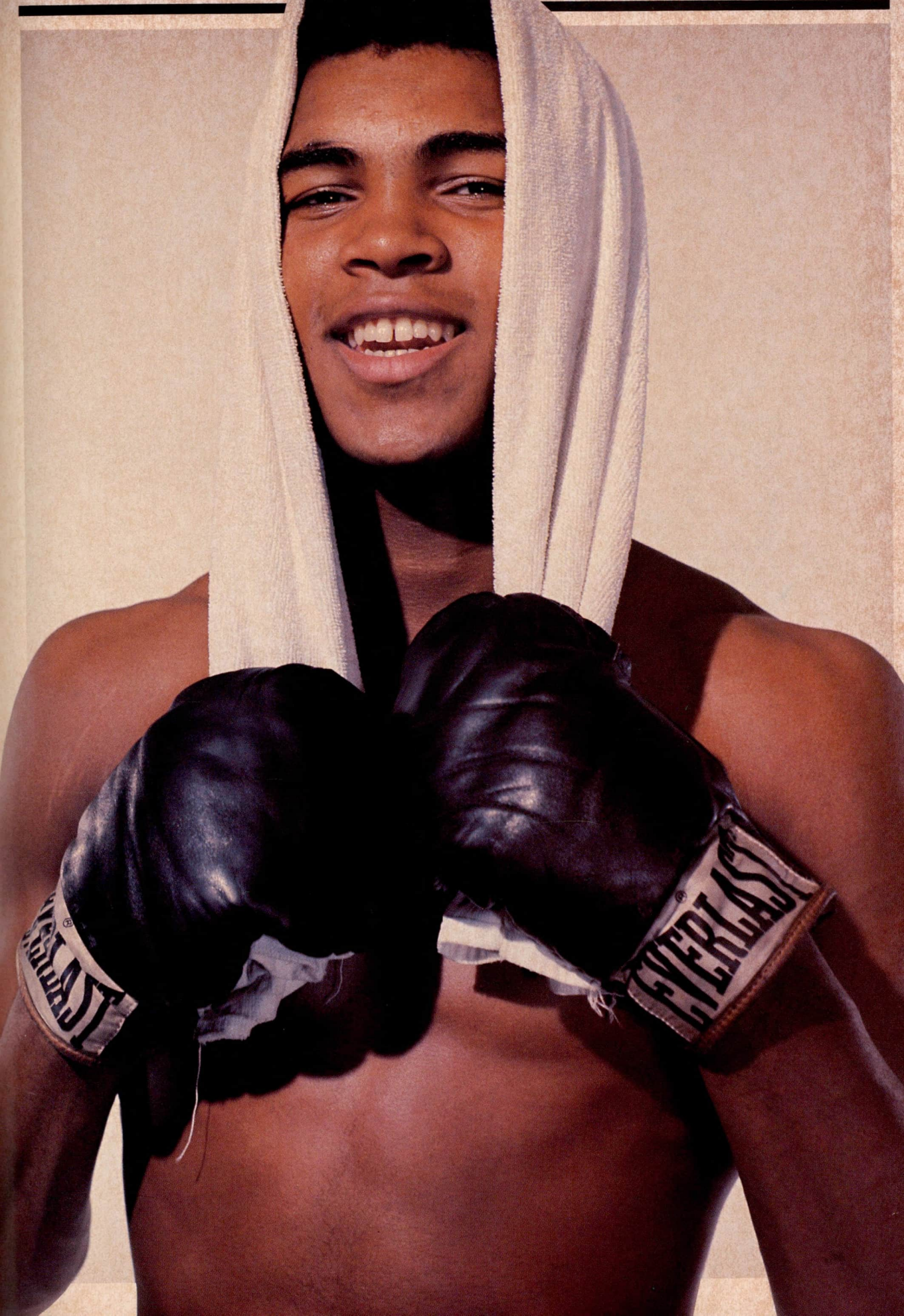
Jerry Izenberg, syndicated columnist (ringside reporter for the *Long Island Press*): "I didn't see the punch from where I was sitting, but after watching the films over and over, my conclusion was that Liston threw a jab and was off-balance and Ali, moving backward, chopped down with a right hand. The impact was almost like a shove. Something to *keep* you down? No way. It was like a slap from your mom. Liston had no intention of getting up. I think he was thinking, 'If I get up, this guy's crazy and he's gonna kill me.' But I don't feel like he went into the fight intending to lose."

Floyd Patterson, former heavyweight champion: "Liston took a helluva punch. I watched him with Cleveland Williams, who was catching him with lefts and rights in the early rounds. I fought Clay twice, and he wasn't much of a puncher. But maybe the body is made that such a punch can hurt you one day and not the next. Sonny did get hit. I've always been very suspicious about that punch, but as I get older, I've decided to accept it. Everyone visited Clay's dressing room after the fight, but I went to Sonny's. He wasn't much of a talker, but you could tell he was appreciative. He was ashamed, but one thing I told him I had learned: Never feel ashamed for feeling ashamed."

Geraldine Liston, the wife of the former champion: "I couldn't tell [if Liston took a dive]. But I do know he went into the fight with bursitis in his left shoulder. I was the one sitting with him every night putting heat on it. He shouldn't have fought *either* fight with Ali."

Pat Smith, TV writer and producer (ringside reporter for the New York *World Telegram & Sun*): "I think the fix was in, but Ali didn't know anything about it. I had a bird's-eye view of the punch. I remember Liston on the canvas. I saw him look up, and then, because of the long count, close his eyes. I talked to my uncle [legendary sports columnist Red Smith] about it, but he just wouldn't come around and agree with me. He didn't *want* to believe it. Nobody would come out and say what a bunch of bulls____ it was. It amazed me. The next day, I wrote a couple of paragraphs alluding to my belief that the fight might have been fixed, and they were struck."

Al Braverman, Director of Boxing for Don King Productions (Liston camp coordinator): "It was 100 percent legitimate. The real truth is that poor Joe Walcott panicked trying to get Ali to a neutral corner, and he stopped the fight without a count of one. Liston got hit high on the cheekbone and was in an awkward position. He was more confused than anything. After it was over, he wanted to go out the back door of the building, he was so ashamed. The fight was absolutely on the level." —SF


EVERLAST

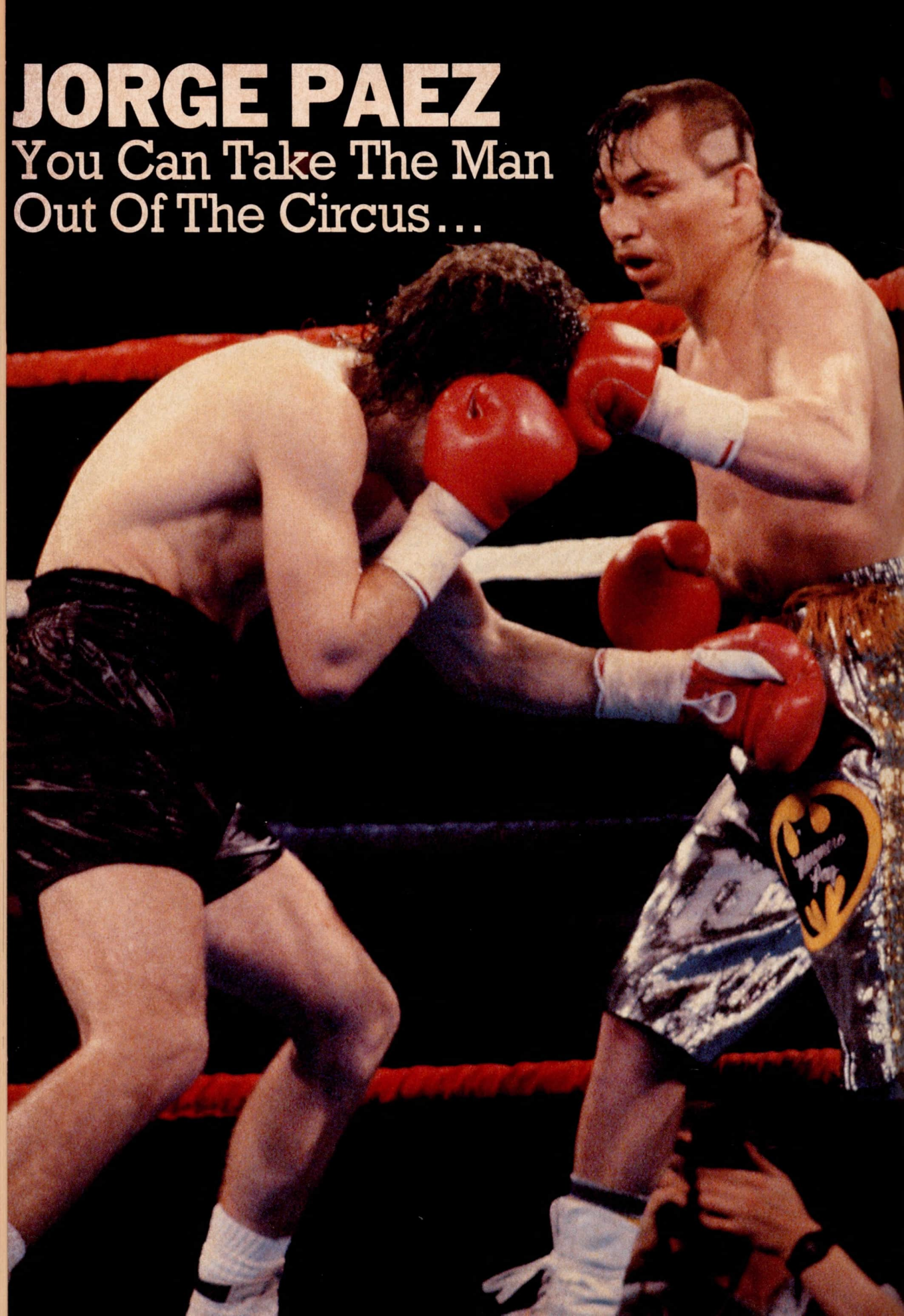
The RING

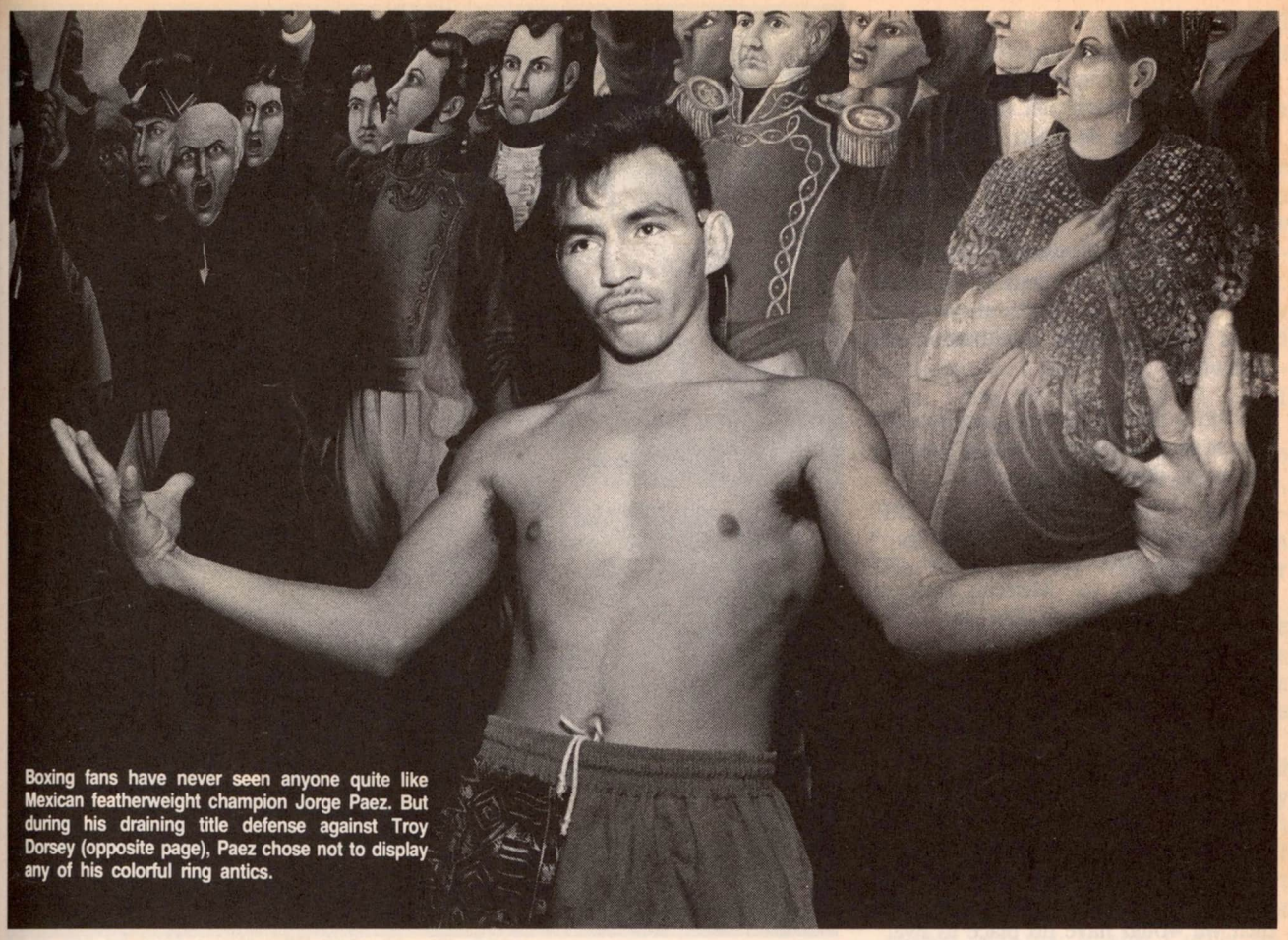
GALLERY

MUHAMMAD ALI

JORGE PAEZ

You Can Take The Man Out Of The Circus...





Boxing fans have never seen anyone quite like Mexican featherweight champion Jorge Paez. But during his draining title defense against Troy Dorsey (opposite page), Paez chose not to display any of his colorful ring antics.

By Bruce Williams

Boxing's three-ring circus is operating at full potential. In the first ring are the boxers, purportedly the stars of the show. In the second ring are those happy-go-lucky officials of the governing bodies, ready with a champion, uh, *joke* for any occasion. All they're missing is the makeup and the red noses. In ring three are the promoters and TV executives. No bearded ladies here, but check out the guy whose hair stands straight up.

Forget the rings. High overhead on the tightrope, the spotlight shines on a new star in sequined trunks and a punk-Mohawk haircut. Can he walk the fine line? Can he do his backflips, handstands, and dances without falling victim to the distractions around him?

Jorge "Maromero" Paez has the circus in his blood; he grew up in one run by his family in Mexicali, Mexico. He's handled the switch from traditional to boxing circus with a flair that has made him one of the sport's most visible and in-demand attractions. Whether he'll conquer the sport, or whether the sport will conquer him, remains to be seen.

Right now, Paez seems to be winning the battle, though he teetered precariously by barely retaining the IBF featherweight title against Troy Dorsey in Las Vegas in February. Managerial, matrimonial, and physical problems seemed ready to shoot down boxing's newest phenom in mid-backflip.

Yet Paez was quickly given support by those backing him, and he immediately began to prepare for his next title defense with a renewed dedication.

"In the days after the Dorsey fight, we in Paez' camp had a long discussion with the champ," explained Ignacio "Nacho" Huizar, the fighter's manager and trainer. (Before the Dorsey bout, trainer Manuel Leal was dropped from Paez' entourage.) "Jorge accepted to discipline himself, and work harder to avoid another scare like in Nevada."

Kevin Monaghan, NBC's boxing coordinator, is also satisfied with the fighter's future; the Dorsey defense was the first in a four-fight, $1.5-million contract between the network and the Mexican. "There's no headache for NBC," Monaghan explained. "John Jackson and the [Great Western] Forum [who promote Paez' fights] are our shield against problems involving him. We were disappointed with Paez' last fight. Obviously, he didn't worry about his weight.

"I hate multifight deals. But the Forum, that's what they came up with. Paez signed this contract. He's getting more than I ever paid a fighter. More people see his promos that follow *The Cosby Show* than ever see all his fights."

Maromero, which means "Acrobat" in Spanish, expects to sign a $3-million contract with HBO after his NBC obligations are fulfilled. Or, he says, he'll retire at the end of 1990. He contends that his heart is still in the circus, and he seeks the independence to do as he pleases.

"To a certain point I am tired, or more than that, annoyed, and I want to be a free man," Paez said. "I'm annoyed at the routine of training, and of submitting myself to a special rhythm of life to maintain my weight. I much more like to just fight and give my show.

"I admit that I had a series of problems [before the Dorsey bout], and they made it difficult for me to make the weight. A little before the fight I suffered diarrhea, which debilitated me a lot. They had me take strong medications and a lot of liquids, and this

made my weight go up. That made me neglect my training a little, and all this led up to my problems with the scale the day of the weigh-in." (Paez first scaled 2½ pounds over the limit, and needed almost four hours to make 126.)

"But that's all finished," Paez continued. "I have promised to discipline myself, and for my next defense I will make the weight without any difficulty."

***

Who is this Maromero, and how did he rise so quickly in the world's toughest, most demanding sport?

Jorge Adolfo Paez Febles was born on October 27, 1965, in Colima, a peasant-run cooperative near the city of Mexicali in the Mexican state of Baja California Norte. He was raised in Circus Olvera, owned by his maternal grandmother, Herminia Olvera, and at an early age learned all the tricks of the acrobats, clowns, and tightrope and trapeze artists.

"I suffered a lot in my childhood," Paez said. "When I was a little boy, the people didn't come to the circus of my grandmother. I thought that they were going to close the circus, and then we would have no place to live."

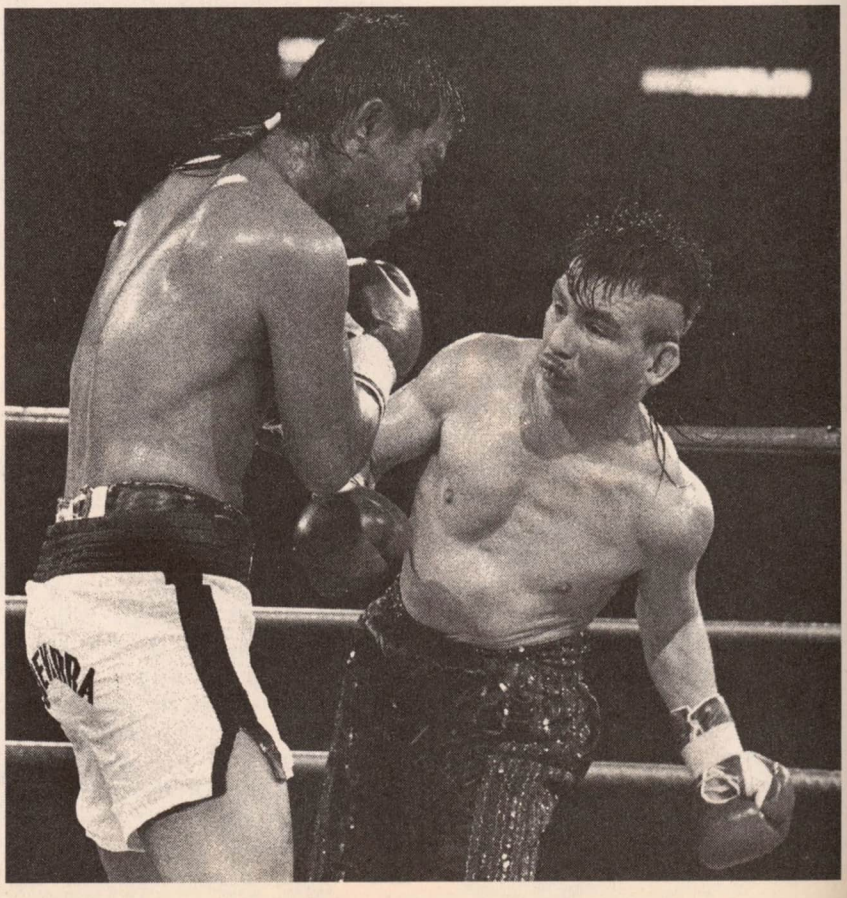
That difficult, demanding childhood helped Paez develop his boyish charm, fun-loving personality (which has caused him to get into a lot of trouble) and love for little children. From Las Vegas and El Paso to Hermosillo and Mexico City, and all points in between, Paez seems at his happiest entertaining and showing off for the little ones that flock around him, especially the poor.

He has committed himself to helping Friar Tormenta's home for abandoned children near Mexico City, donating portions of his earnings to the orphanage. He has also, at the request of Mexico's Procurer General, devoted himself to the "Say No To Drugs" campaign.

"I tell the children that I care about them very much," Paez explained. "I tell them they should play sports and not think about the drugs. Sports help them to be healthy humans; at the same time, when it is one's work, it is a profession as fulfilling as any other."

His father, David Paez Cardenas, had been a boxer, fighting under the name "Pachuco" Cardenas. But it was his uncle, Beto Olvera, who trained him when he first showed an interest in the sport.

"I developed my own style myself," Paez points out. "I didn't copy



After victories, Paez flaunts his well-developed acrobatic skills (above). During combat, however, the titlist has utilized more conventional methods to defeat opponents such as Alan Makitoki (below).

Exhausted from a painful 11th-hour effort to make weight, Paez barely retained the IBF 126-pound crown with a decision over Troy Dorsey in February. The mercurial Mexican will likely soon rise in weight.

anybody."

With only three bouts of amateur experience, Paez turned pro in January 1985, in Puerta Penasco, Mexico.

"In Mexicali, there wasn't any interest in me because I was very bad, or so they told me," he recalled. "They only accepted me after I'd gotten some victories as a professional."

It was his first promoter, Senor Romero, who gave Paez his nickname.

"He told me, 'I'm going to call you Maromero. I see that you like to do a flip after each fight, so from now on you will be Maromero Paez.' Nobody influenced me to do the flips and the dancing. It's good to dance before the fight, when I'm arriving in the ring; this warms up my muscles, and it makes my rival think of other things, breaks up his concentration. With my flips after the fights, I am able to inform people that I am a man of the circus.

"It's true that I have my boxing idols: Salvador Sanchez, a great champion, Muhammad Ali, who was the best boxer in the world, and Pipino Cuevas. But I don't compare myself to anyone; if people want to compare me, they can. I'm me, Maromero Paez. Everybody's different, and I'm different from everybody else. I want to be known as me, only me."

***

After five knockout victories, Paez suffered two losses and a draw in his next six fights. Since then, he's been unbeaten in 26 fights, with the only blotch on his record being a disputed title defense draw in May 1989 against Louie Espinoza. Paez planned to avenge that draw in his seventh defense in April.

Paez labored against unknowns in Mexico, with just one bout in the United States, a first-round knockout of Sal Bara in San Diego in February 1986. Then, in August 1988, IBF featherweight champion Calvin Grove came to Mexicali for what was expected to be an easy voluntary defense. Paez had never beaten a rated opponent, and, before receiving his try at the title, had been rated by the IBF for only two months. But after 14 close rounds, Grove, no longer able to capitalize on his nine-inch reach advantage, wilted in the 125-degree heat of the Plaza de Toros Calafia bullring. Paez knocked down the champion three times in the 15th round and won by majority decision. A new star and champion was revealed to the world.

Paez' fame has grown, especially in the United States, where all but one of his title defenses have been televised. The Mexican can't be ignored; those who watch him are forced to react either positively or negatively. Many purists, especially in his native Mexico, are aghast at this rebel who breakdances and moonwalks, wears pants right out of an Aztec or Mayan travelogue, and flaunts outrageous haircuts with a message or symbol of the day shaved into them. Paez has been called everything from a burlesque act to an insult and a joke.

He shrugs at such criticism, though he admits it has bothered him at times.

"The boxer and the man, they are the same person in me," he says. "The Maromero is like the spirit of Jorge Paez, and together they form the double sensation of the world of boxing. Outside the ring, I am simply a merry *muchacho,* and with everything I find amusement. I don't like the seriousness. I like the children a lot, and I give them all kisses."

Paez says his greatest joys have been his son Jose Luis and his world title. His biggest error, he admits, was getting married. "But fortunately I am free again!" the divorced fighter proclaims.

Already with more money than he ever imagined he'd have, Paez hopes to make a lot more in as short a time as possible and then return to the circus.

"I want to retire this year with all my faculties and some money to buy *frijoles* [beans]," he said. "I don't have vices, and I want to enjoy life. If I didn't dominate boxing, I wouldn't be world champion. The people want winners, and that is what I really am. My strong point in boxing is the attack, the fight. And my weak point is the women!"

To stay in shape after the Dorsey fight, Paez began a road show. He paid a visit to Chicago, promising to fight there one day, and gave exhibitions in Mexican towns Reynosa, Tampico, Monterrey, and Hermosillo (where the crowd was estimated at about 8,000). His entourage has been trimmed to manager Huizar, counselor Hector Gil, personal physician Dr. Felipe Corona, and three sparring partners.

"There are certain critics, but nobody has said anything about the benefits, about the good things he's done and the money he's raised," Huizar said. "He hasn't deceived anybody [during his road show]; they have been announced not as fights, but as exhibitions of the style of Maromero, with his flips, his moves, his show."

And what a show it is. No longer walking the tightrope, Jorge Paez has become a ring leader, and the circus that is boxing will never be the same again. □

Bruce Williams is *The Ring's* correspondent for Mexico.

KID GAVILAN

The Turbulent Flight Of The Cuban Hawk

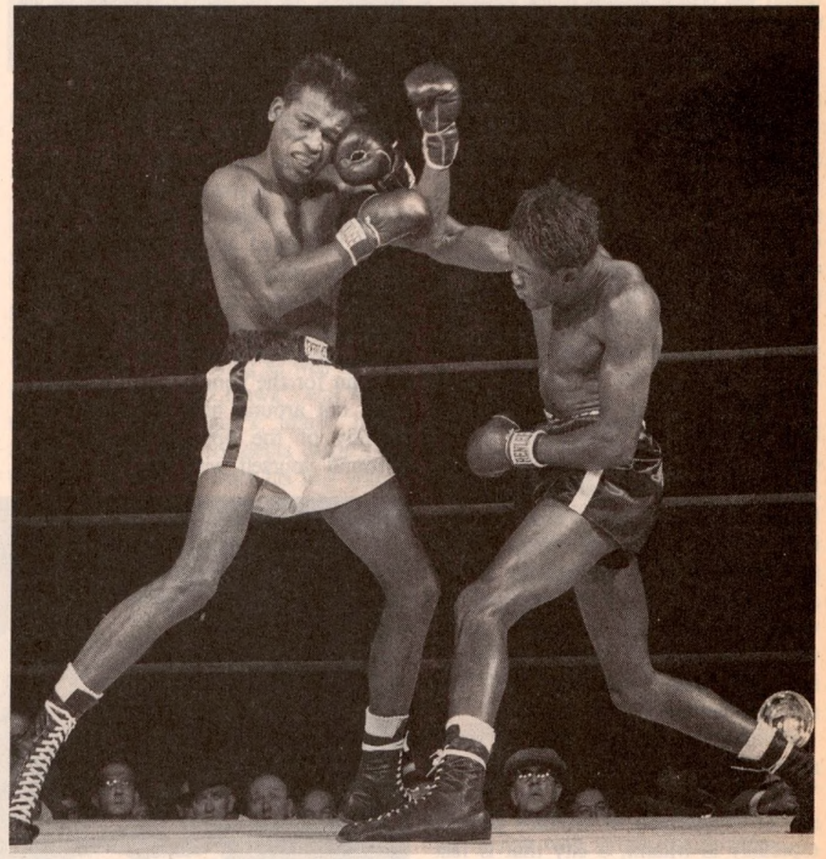
By James Dusgate

Ask any genuine fight fan his opinion of Gerardo Gonzalez and all you'll get is a blank expression; the name, the Spanish equivalent of John Smith, conveys nothing. On the other hand, mention his nickname, Kid Gavilan, and, whatever the fan's age, his eyes will widen in wonderment. Thirty years after his retirement, the Cuban still commands such respect. In the opinion of many, he rates among the best top 10 fighters ever.

Gavilan, Spanish for "sparrowhawk," had few equals in the annals of fistiana. He was a great welterweight champion, and he also tried unsuccessfully for the middleweight championship in 1954 against Bobo Olson. Gavilan compiled an overall mark of 107-30-6. (Most of the losses came toward the tail-end of his career that spanned from 1943-1958, when he was fighting only for the money.) The flashy fighter in white boots, famed for his stylish bolo punch and irrepressible energy in the ring, was never kayoed, though he fought all the best during a career that embraced the period generally recognized as boxing's Golden Age.

Gavilan took on, among others, Sugar Ray Robinson (twice), Laurent Dauthuille, Paddy Young, Billy Graham, Johnny Bratton, Carmen Basilio, Beau Jack, Gil Turner, Tiger Jones, Chico Vejar, Tony DeMarco, and Bobby Dykes (who, like Gavilan, lives in Miami, and describes his neighbor as a "double-tough son of a bitch").

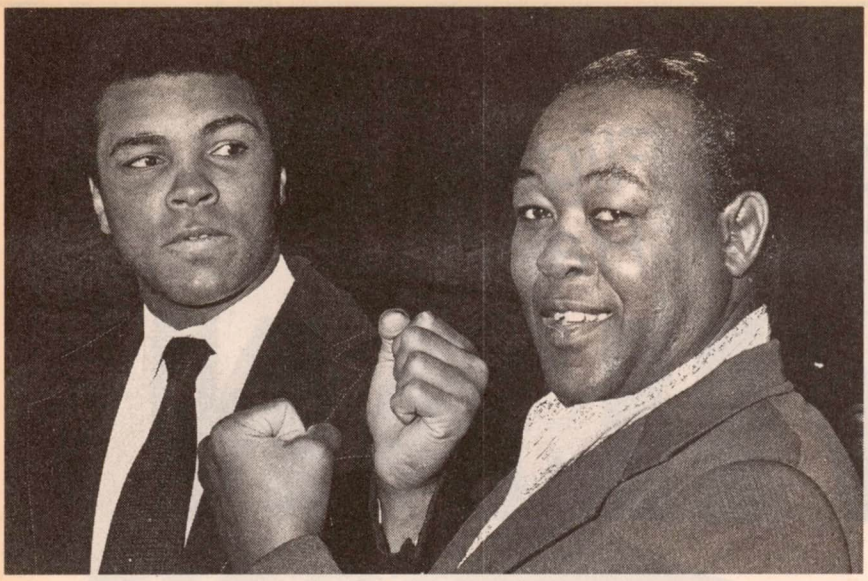
Gavilan's two close encounters with Sugar Ray Robinson set the seal on his greatness. Robinson stated years later that these were the toughest tussles of his life.



Gavilan smacks Sugar Ray Robinson during the first of their two welterweight showdowns. Robinson won both bouts on points. He later said that Gavilan was the toughest opponent of his career.

At one time in Cuba, the Kid was as near to being a god as a man could get. But three years ago, Gavilan was living at the Waves Hotel on South Beach, Miami, a cheap but clean residential hotel where the ex-champ was surrounded by an unlikely collage of retired, gray-haired couples from New York and a lot of younger single Latin men. It was a reasonably respectable setting for an average old gladiator, but not someone of Gavilan's class. Gavilan's rent, for a small room with two single beds looking out over an alley, was actually being picked up by Ernesto Duran, a well-known manager/promoter in Miami, and a Cuban exile like the Kid himself.

The Waves represented the traditional face of Miami. It was in contrast to the glossy image the city has acquired in recent years as the modern capital of the Caribbean, gorging itself on the



Gavilan was once a member of the entourage of Muhammad Ali. The Kid has depended on the generosity of friends and fight figures for several years. Now 64, he lives in poverty in Miami Beach.

billions of dollars flowing into its banks from Latin America, much of it from the drug trade. As Gavilan would sit in the lobby of the hotel, everyone seemed to know him and to want to say hello or touch him. To the residents, it was as if the physical contact allowed them to make contact with a precious moment in their own history.

The champ didn't say much. His responses were mostly limited to nods. But he did do a lot of smiling.

In his heyday in the '50s, Gavilan lived in New York City, on the southern edge of Harlem, near Central Park. New York was still the Mecca of boxing, and he became a crowd favorite at Madison Square Garden. But, perhaps even more importantly as far as his place in history is concerned, he was one of boxing's first big TV stars, with 34 televised fights. This accounts, in part at least, for the degree of recognition he still enjoys today.

Gavilan retired more than 30 years ago and has been broke for the last 25. Yet, it is easy to see that he remains special to hundreds of ordinary people, especially in Miami, a city that is fast becoming a living Hall of Fame for ex-world champions, many of whom find themselves in the same dire financial straits as Gavilan.

One can gauge the significance of the man from the fact that he still receives so many letters asking for his autograph. Young would-be champions sit at his feet, absorbing the wisdom of the master. Many people connected with the fight game still want to help him.

During his days at the Waves, Gavilan was ostensibly helping out Ernesto Duran (no relation to Roberto) at the Caron Gym as a trainer, though his greatest value appeared to be what he represented to the boxers he was involved with. He spent his mornings relaxing in the lobby of the hotel, waiting to be picked up by someone from the gym, where he was to be found hanging around during the afternoons and early evenings like a battered but highly prized ornament, or perhaps a talisman for the young hopefuls sweating it out around him. Many are apparently of the opinion that if you surround yourself with the famous or successful, some of their glitter and good luck is bound to rub off.

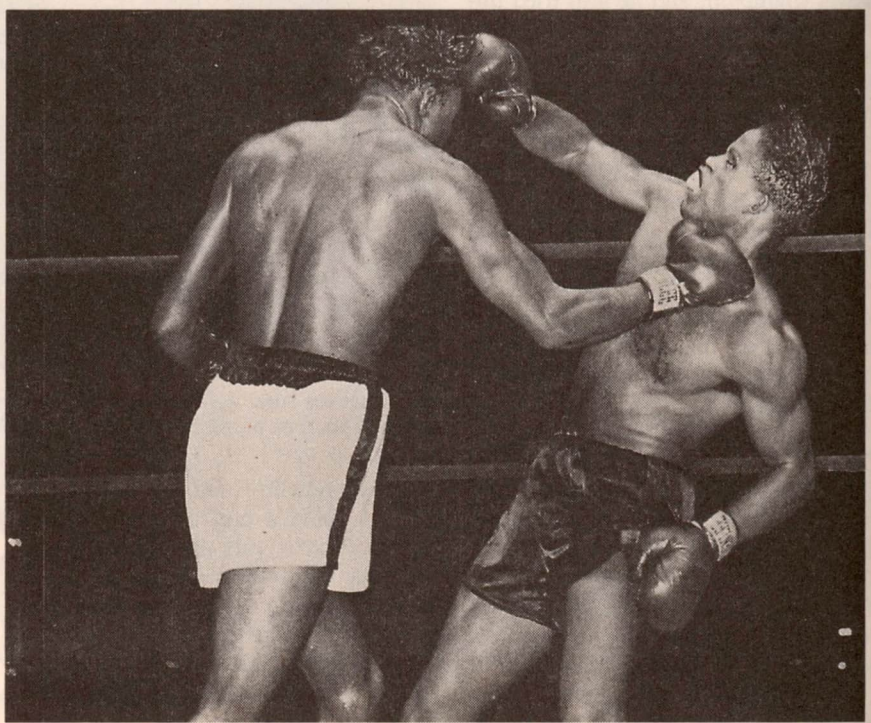
The Kid was born on January 6, 1926, in Camaguey, Cuba. As a child, his favorite and best sport was baseball. He claims to have played every position. The champ says he nurtured the hope of playing pro baseball in America, but that it was not until he was a teenager that someone told him that blacks were not allowed to play Major League baseball in the United States. He had seen films of Joe Louis, "so I changed my mind [about pursuing baseball]."

Gavilan's pro career started at age 17, when he began to fight for Fernando Balido, the owner of a cafe called *El Gavilan,* which later provided the Kid's nickname. In 1945, Gavilan moved to Mexico City, and, after a successful one-year stint there, headed north to New York.

The Kid and the Big Apple were made for each other.

"One day I stood on a streetcorner and looked up past the tall buildings at the sky," Gavilan said. "*I want to own New York,* I thought."

The big names among the lighter men in those days were Ike Williams, Johnny Bratton, and Beau Jack. But the king was Sugar Ray Robinson. Gavilan lost a close 10-round, non-title fight to Robinson in September of 1948. Ten months later, he lost a second bout with Robinson, this time, in a 15-round challenge for the welter-



In Gavilan's third defense of the welterweight title, he stopped Gil Turner in 11 rounds. Gavilan kept the crown for more than three years. He also tried for the middleweight crown, but lost to Bobo Olson.

weight championship.

"Robinson hit me more times than everyone else together," Gavilan said, "and I felt it every time . . . he was the best . . . how many guys you know fight 25 rounds with Sugar Ray?"

Gavilan had to wait until the Sugar Man moved up to middleweight before getting another crack at the 147-pound title. In 1950, he fought 15 times, and earned another title try on pure merit. His opportunity came on May 18, 1951, and he won a 15-round decision over Johnny Bratton for the vacant title. The Kid made six title defenses over the next three years, most of which were shown on TV.

Gavilan's striking appearance (white shoes and slicked back hair) and style (he seemed to rumba his way round the ring) made him a highly prized attraction. His trademark bolo punch was a looping, underhand right delivered with the same follow-through used by Cuban peasants to cut sugar cane with a machete. It lacked power but impressed the public. The reason for developing the punch may have had more to do with Gavilan's height than anything else. At 5'10½", he was taller than most of the opponents, who would burrow into his midsection. The bolo was the perfect answer against those who tried to duck under his guard. The Kid did indeed lack punching power, but was a fine boxer with an iron chin and superior ring generalship.

During his glory years, Gavilan earned $2-million, a colossal sum in those days. He loved Manhattan, and bought a Cadillac to ride around town all day. He also loved to spend money. One old crony recalled the occasion when Gavilan mistakenly left a paper bag filled with $35,000 in a girlfriend's apartment. The next day he went back to find the money still there.

"Oh," Gavilan recalled, "those were great days . . . "

Upon winning the welterweight crown, Gavilan declared he would be a fighting champion. He was as good as his word. But he eventually lost his welterweight title to an unknown, Johnny Saxton, in a fight in Philadelphia that afterward was suspected of being fixed.

"The Mafia controlled a lot of boxing then," the Kid recalled. "No way I win in Philadelphia if it goes the distance."

After the loss to Saxton on October 20, 1954, Gavilan continued to fight for another four years, but it was downhill all the way. His right hand, broken in a fight a few years before, got weaker and weaker. Gavilan would inject his hand with novocaine until it got to the point where the drug no longer had any effect. But Gavilan was worn out by the partying as well as the boxing. The "Cuban Hawk" was definitely one of boxing's many high rollers, which led to debts with the taxman and divorce from his first wife.

"I spend money until the bank tells me I have none left," Gavilan recalled. "Then I go out and get another fight."

Finally, after losing to Yama Bahama in June 1958, Gavilan decided to return to Havana, where he had a farm. His Cadillac went with him. His wife and three children stayed in America, where he also left a tax debt of $68,000.

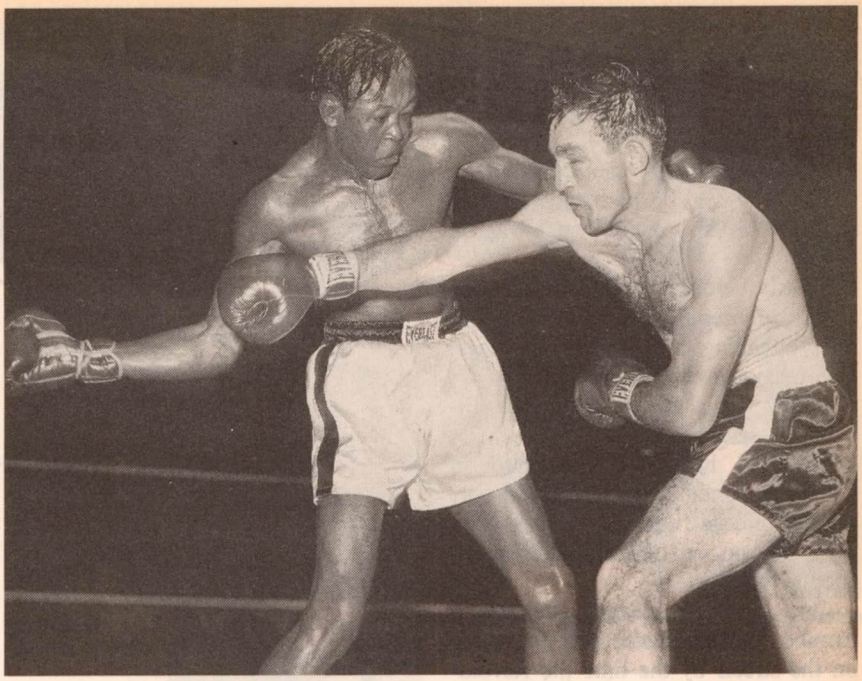
Though he had spent nearly all his fortune, he was still able to look forward to a comfortable retirement on his 40-acre ranch in the Cuban countryside. At that time, Havana was the largest, loveliest, and most sumptuous city in the Caribbean. It was a tropical paradise for those with the cash to enjoy it.

Of course, if you were one of the millions eking out an existence in the rum-soaked backstreets of Havana, or sweltering like slaves on the sugar plantations of the rich, you might have seen things differently.

"People say, 'Before the Revolution,' but there was no Cuba before the Revolution," legendary Cuban champion Kid Chocolate once said. "Unless you were a boxer or a dancer in the nightclubs, it wasn't so good."

But in 1958, boxing and cigars were still the uncrowned kings of Havana; even Sugar Ray Robinson headed south for the fun. Only six months after Gavilan's return, however, the dream began to turn into a nightmare. The first hint of what lay ahead was when the Hawk was awakened by guerrillas searching his property. By January 1959, Fidel Castro had taken power. The immediate reaction was one of universal euphoria. Even *The New York Times* voiced its approval of the new regime. Few remember now that Joe Louis was guest of honor at the *Plaza de la Revolucion* on Christmas day in 1960. But boxers make bad politicians, and, as many were soon to find out, communist politics does not exactly jive with professional sports.

After Robinson returned to the United States, he was followed by a trickle of the big-name Cuban boxers of the time—a young Luis Rodriguez, the ill-fated Benny Paret, Jose Napoles, and, later, Sugar Ramos. The aging Kid Chocolate stayed put, apparently out of choice, and so did Gavilan, but *not* by choice. When his money ran out, the Kid applied for an exit visa to return to America. But the Cuban authorities took away his passport and conveniently lost it for the next seven years. Gavilan changed his car



Among the most celebrated blows in boxing history is Gavilan's bolo punch, which is about to land against Carmen Basilio. The Kid successfully defended the 147-pound title against Basilio in 1953.

for a more modest Ford, but even this was confiscated. The cataracts that had developed in his eyes grew worse, and the government wouldn't let him farm what he wanted.

"I was up, then I came down," he said. "If it wasn't for God, I could have just as easy died when I was on top."

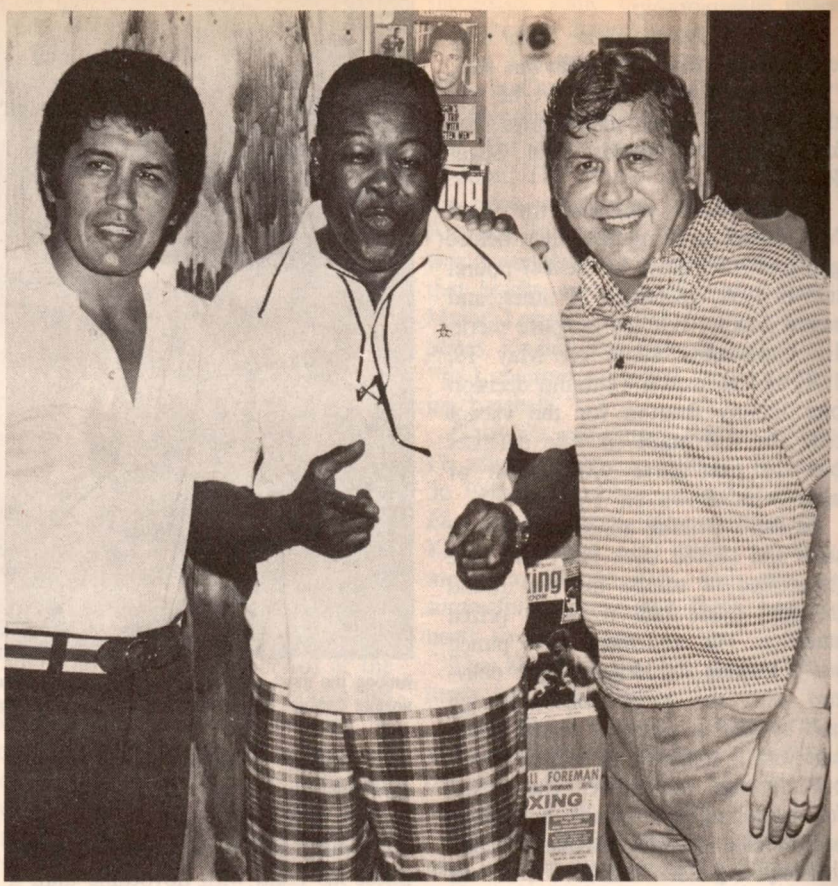
Shortly before he left America, Gavilan had become a Jehova's Witness after attending one of their meetings. The religion attracted him.

"They really talked about the Bible," he said.

The Kid had always believed in God, but Roman Catholicism had only offered him its ritualism. For Gavilan, there was no personal spiritual experience involved.

Once back in Havana, he was a member of the church and preaching on the streets by the time the Revolution arrived. During the nine years he was to remain in Cuba, he was arrested 10 times for handing out tracts and talking about God in public. Each time he spent a few days in jail, where he would try to convert prisoners and guards. Then he'd be released—virtually out of exasperation—by the authorities.

Perhaps the main reason Gavilan was not locked up for good, or simply stood up against a wall and executed, was his immense popularity with his compatriots. In fact, in 1959, he was introduced at one of Castro's first big rallies in Havana, where all of Cuba's sporting heroes that could be found were put on display.



Gavilan is flanked by Chico Vejar (left) and former middleweight champion Joey Giardello at Muhammad Ali's training camp in August 1974. The Kid is most comfortable when reliving his days at the top.

"I got big applause . . . if that don't happen, later he kill me," Gavilan said.

By the mid-'60s, Gavilan had remarried but was nearly blind and housebound. The Cuban Sports Ministry finally awarded him a pension of $200 a month and provided a place for him to live in Havana. But his real desire was to return to America. In 1967, he was voted into the U.S. National Boxing Hall of Fame, and, on the Voice of America radio network, President Lyndon Johnson invited him to personally accept the honor. Friends and relatives began to discreetly lobby the American authorities on Gavilan's behalf, and, miraculously, after Cuban authorities suddenly discovered his lost passport, he was allowed to leave on the Refugee Airlift. On September 16, 1968, Gavilan finally arrived back in the United States.

The former champion was able to get a job, and after a benefit dinner and newspaper appeals to the Cuban community, he was able to afford two cataract operations. He was later roped into Muhammad Ali's circus for about four years, where he worked as a trainer and cornerman, more for the sake of his prestige than anything else. After he left Ali's entourage, he was forced to sue the heavyweight for arrears in salary and was awarded $40,000 by the courts. Despite the conflict, Gavilan rates Ali on a par with Joe Louis.

Subsequently, three strokes left him partially paralyzed. In 1978, he moved to Miami to try to find a job. There followed five years of living in hotel rooms and cockroach-infested apartments, barely eking out an existence. An old friend from the days of wine and roses, Bernie Gaston, eventually invited him to live with his family. Gavilan, always a polite and quiet man, was a model house guest. It was after a spell at Gaston's that, at Miami promoter Chris Dundee's suggestion, Ernesto Duran took the Kid on board to help with his fighters and promotions.

Three years ago, Duran organized an evening of exhibition bouts as a benefit for Gavilan. A pudgy and somewhat embarrassed Roberto Du-

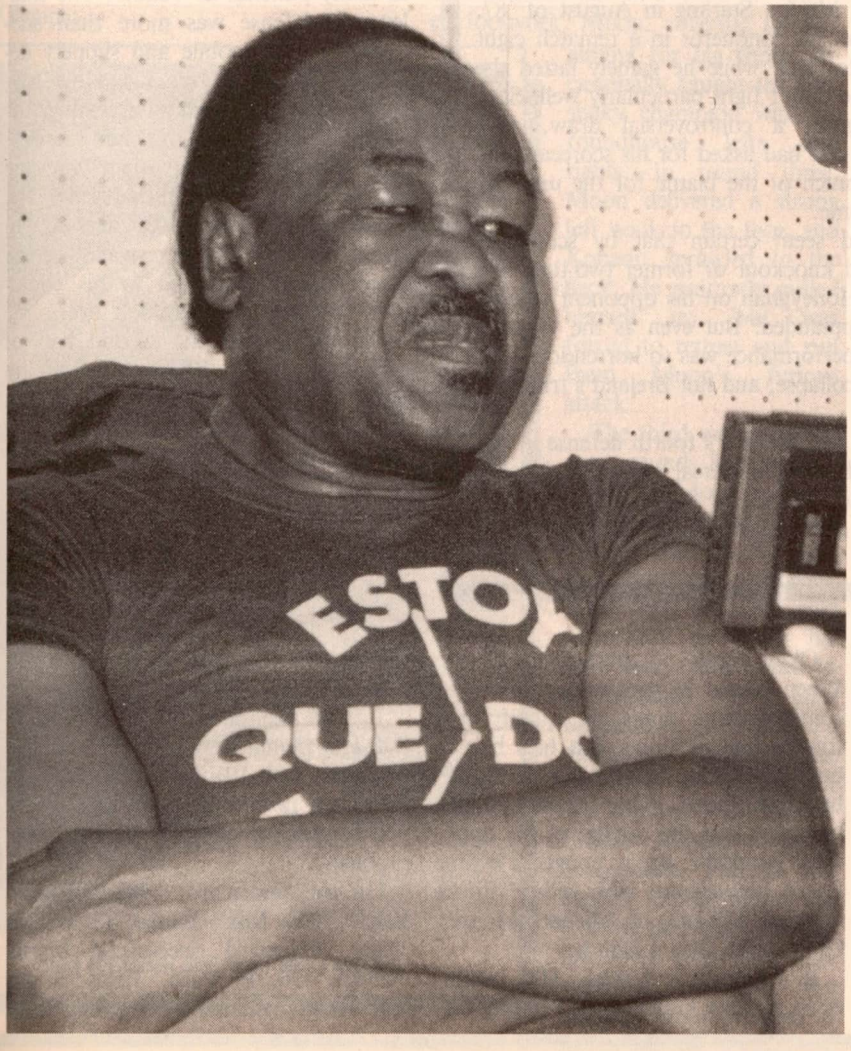
ran, starting out on the comeback trail, even put in an appearance. Ernesto Duran hoped to raise $5,000 for the Kid with a big turnout by the local Cuban community. But barely 500 guests showed up, and Ernesto lost about $15,000. The tremendous affection for Gavilan obviously did not reach down into people's pockets.

To be fair, though, should any man who enjoyed as much fame and wasted as much money as Gavilan really expect the general public to keep him when he falls upon hard times? The Kid himself was not upset. He said politely, "Ernesto gave me a party. It was not successful."

Since 1987, Gavilan's situation has changed for the worse. The Cuban now lives alone on the sixth floor of a depressing, crowded tenement erected by the government to help those who cannot help themselves. For his visitors, the Kid is always home. The former champ doesn't hesitate to show his guests into his miniature apartment and seems genuinely glad to have company. Possessing neither a phone nor a car, his social life today is virtually non-existent.

The Kid's last title-fight victory came against Johnny Bratton in November 1953. After topping Bratton, Gavilan compiled a record of 12-17-1. He retired after losing to Yama Bahama in 1958.

Besides being half-blind, Gavilan has difficulty breathing, and speaks with a slur. Seeing the plight of this once-brilliant fighter who had the world at his feet fills one with an immense sadness. Gavilan has no income, no regular job, and little prospect of getting one.



The sands of time seem to be finally running out for this giant of the ring, who 35 years ago looked to be immortal. Three years ago Ernesto Duran said, "As a Cuban myself, I believe Gavilan deserves to be helped. As long as I can, I will see he lacks for nothing."

Today it seems Gavilan is in need of another benefactor, as his physical condition deteriorates and his options narrow even further.

Despite his troubles, the Kid has retained his serenity and dignity, and continues to be a perfect gentleman. When entertaining visitors, the Kid recalls great moments from his career, and that of others. But mostly, the ex-champ listens, sitting sphinx-like with eyes heavy-lidded and hands cupped in his lap. He seems to enjoy the exuberance of his guests. Perhaps the smiles remind him of the sweet days, when he reigned supreme in Havana and was adored by its women. He gladly produces photos of himself in his youth that show just what a handsome man he had been.

As the conversation turns to religion, he recalls that one of Joe Louis' favorite sayings, "Humility comes before honor," had always stayed with him.

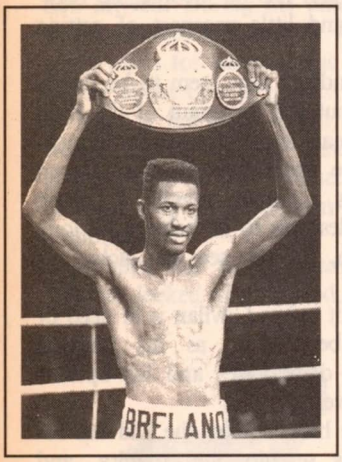
With so many great boxers of the past reduced to misery, the Bible verse, "Pride cometh before a fall," might be more appropriate.

James Dusgate is a veteran boxing writer based in Costa Rica. □

RINGSIDE REPORTS

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH: Mark Breland

WBA welterweight champion Mark Breland has a penchant for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. When the New Yorker first fought for a world title, he knocked out Harold Volbrecht, a limited South African who wasn't deserving of his high ranking. Two years later, Breland won the WBA crown for the second time by kayoing South Korea's Seung Soon Lee in the first round.



Like Volbrecht, Lee had been a pretender. When, observers wanted to know, was Breland going to defeat a top-10 foe? Breland, it seemed, was being blamed for winning.

Even against legitimate world-class welterweights, Breland was criticized. After being kayoed by Marlon Starling in August of '87, Breland met his conqueror in a rematch eight months later and, while he gamely lasted the distance, he didn't fight particularly well. Still, he was given a controversial draw, and, though no one had asked for his scorecard, he absorbed much of the blame for the unpalatable outcome.

It would seem certain that by scoring a third-round knockout of former two-time titlist Lloyd Honeyghan on his opponent's home turf in London, Breland would finally be applauded. But even as the victories mount, his luck remains lousy. Honeyghan's performance was so horrendous—he fell to the floor a total of six times—that his collapse, and not Breland's triumph, drew the postfight spotlight.

Still, the smashing victory over Honeyghan was Breland's fourth defense in less than a year. Activity probably won't secure Breland universal respect, unless, of course, he manages to defeat Starling or Buddy McGirt or Simon Brown or one of the division's other top fighters. But he does deserve some slack.

After all, it's not always Mark Breland's fault.

VIRGIL HILL-DAVID VEDDER

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA—Legends by numbers: WBA light heavyweight champion Virgil Hill has made eight successful title defenses. Let's see, that's more than Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom, equal to Matthew Saad Muhammad, only one shy of Archie Moore, and just two short of Victor Galindez. And those 175-pound champions never had to defend against Rufino Angulo or Ramzi Hassan!

Okay, okay, no more facetiousness. When placed in perspective, Hill's accomplishments don't yet qualify him for the hall of fame. But he's been a busy champion, and for that he should be commended. That doesn't mean, however, that the quality of his opposition couldn't use a boost. It's time for a showdown with either Prince Charles Williams or Michael Moorer. Or at least Don Lalonde.

In "Gumby" Vedder, Hill outfinessed another limited foe. Vedder, 175, San Jose, California, is a 6'1" clubfighter who earned this title try by outpointing USBA champ Uriah Grant. With a prefight mark of 12-8-3 (2), he didn't seem much of a threat. And he wasn't.

In February 1985, Hill, 27-0 (17), scored a six-round unanimous decision over Vedder in his third pro bout. Hill, 174¾, has improved drastically since that encounter. His speed, movement, and timing enabled him to outbox Vedder, a fighter who shares those same attributes.

Through five rounds at the Bismarck Civic Center, Hill threw twice as many punches as Vedder. The challenger's defense was more than adequate—he's a mobile and slippery defensive fighter, as his nickname suggests—but by steadily retreating, he wasn't able to score too many points.

In the seventh, Hill began bouncing on his toes and moving laterally. The tactic proved effective. Forced to march forward, Vedder swallowed jab after jab and returned to his corner with swelling under his left eye.

Hill dominated the second half of the bout. With 30 seconds left in round eight, he stunned Vedder with a right, his least dangerous weapon. And in the last minute of the 11th, a hook backed Vedder to the ropes. It seemed that referee Eddie Eckert's intervention was imminent, but the challenger held on.

The scoring: Donald O'Neill (United States), 119-110; Carol Polis (United States), 119-111; Julio Roldan (Venezuela), 119-107.

It was announced before the fight that Hill's tentatively scheduled unification bout with IBF champion Williams had been postponed until at least the fall because of Williams' promotional problems.

On the undercard, 1988 Olympian Kelcie "Mr. Mix" Banks, 135½, Las Vegas, destroyed once-useful Martin Galvan, 136, El Paso, Texas, in the first round. Banks, who scored three

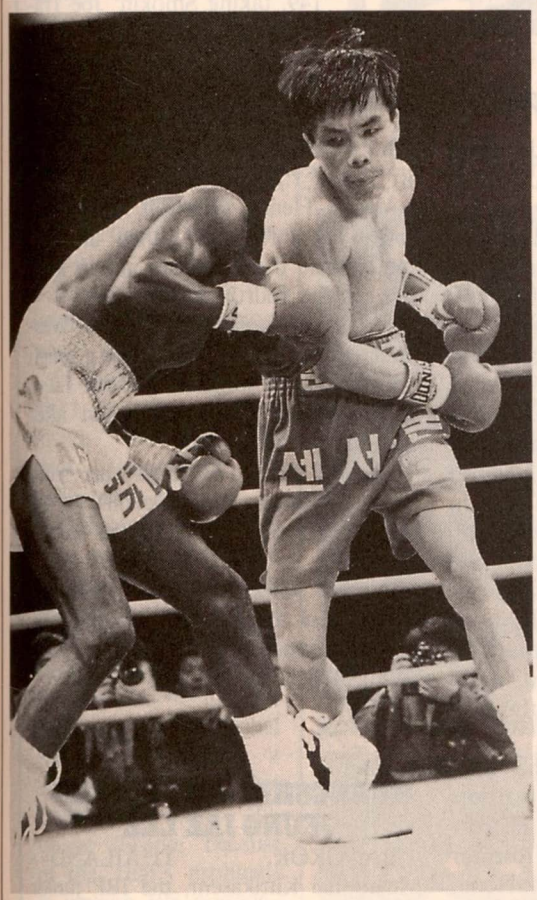
knockdowns, is 7-1 (5). Galvan dropped to 21-17-2 (16).

The fights were televised by ESPN. The attendance was an estimated 8,000.
(2-2-90)

SUNG KIL MOON-NANA KONADU

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA—Sung Kil Moon, 115, a rough-and-tumble Korean warrior, was awarded the WBC super flyweight throne after being given a controversial technical decision over previously unbeaten Nana Konadu of Ghana, 114¾, at the end of the ninth round at the Korean Trade Center. It was a furious battle, with five knockdowns in the first four rounds.

Moon, a 26-year-old powerpuncher who is known as the "Korean Fists of Stone," moved down to the 115-pound class after losing the WBA bantamweight crown to Kaokor Galaxy in July 1989. During his amateur days, he was best known for disposing of American Robert Shannon at the 1984 Olympics.



Sung Kil Moon dethrones Nana Konadu

Konadu had won the title with a brilliant performance against veteran champion Gilberto Roman in November. In that fight, the Ghanian sent Roman to the canvas no fewer than five times—to the amazement of the Mexican crowd. Few Koreans expected Moon's victory because the tape of Konadu vs. Roman had been shown almost every day—for weeks—on local television.

Moon's opening attack stunned not only the defending champion, but also the partisan crowd. In round one, he landed a solid left hook that floored Konadu. The bewildered champion beat the count, but returned to the deck after absorbing Moon's wicked right cross. With more composure, the Korean could have finished his foe. But Moon was too eager to land lethal shots and lost his own balance. Then, incredibly, the stylish Konadu countered with a short left hook with his back to the ropes and dropped Moon to his knees.

The second round saw Konadu throwing fast jabs and using his vaunted footwork. Moon, covering up and aiming for big shots, occasionally caught the still-shaky champion with his roundhouse lefts and rights. In round three, Moon delivered a strong left hook to the face, and Konadu sprawled to the deck. He promptly pulled himself up, but was forced to retreat and run from Moon's furious attack.

The third was a significant round for another reason: Moon began streaming blood from cuts between the eyes and over the right eyebrow. Moreover, Konadu also suffered a cut under his right eye, which began to swell badly. Dr. Oko Kwatekwei, Konadu's manager, advised the champion to keep cool and outbox the Korean swinger. Konadu followed instructions, and in the fourth, he outjabbed the Korean and then floored him with a straight left. Jumping up from the canvas, Moon became a bleeding tiger swarming over his target. But Konadu skipped away unharmed.

The sixth was taken by the Korean, as he gamely stalked the champion with looping lefts and damaging rights. In the seventh and eighth rounds, however, Moon looked tired. Konadu repeatedly threw machine-gun jabs and one-twos, as the momentum looked to have turned to the titleholder. Moon amazingly rebounded to take the ninth session, as he punched the faster Konadu with rough but still powerful combinations while enduring the champion's rapier thrusts.

From the fourth round, American referee Tony Perez had ignored the Korean ring doctor, who kept shouting after every round, "Referee, stop this fight!" Finally, after the ninth, Perez accepted the doctor's advice, even though Moon's worst cut appeared to have ceased bleeding. It seemed clear that Moon was able to fight on.

Because it had been determined that Moon's cut had been opened by an unintentional butt, the scorecards were gathered. All three cards favored Moon: 86-84 (Dalby Shirley), 87-84 (Herbert Minn), and 86-82 (Omar Minton). The result of the match was to be discussed by the WBC, and an immediate rematch is a strong possibility.

Moon is 11-1 (9). Konadu, 24, dropped to 18-1-1 (14).

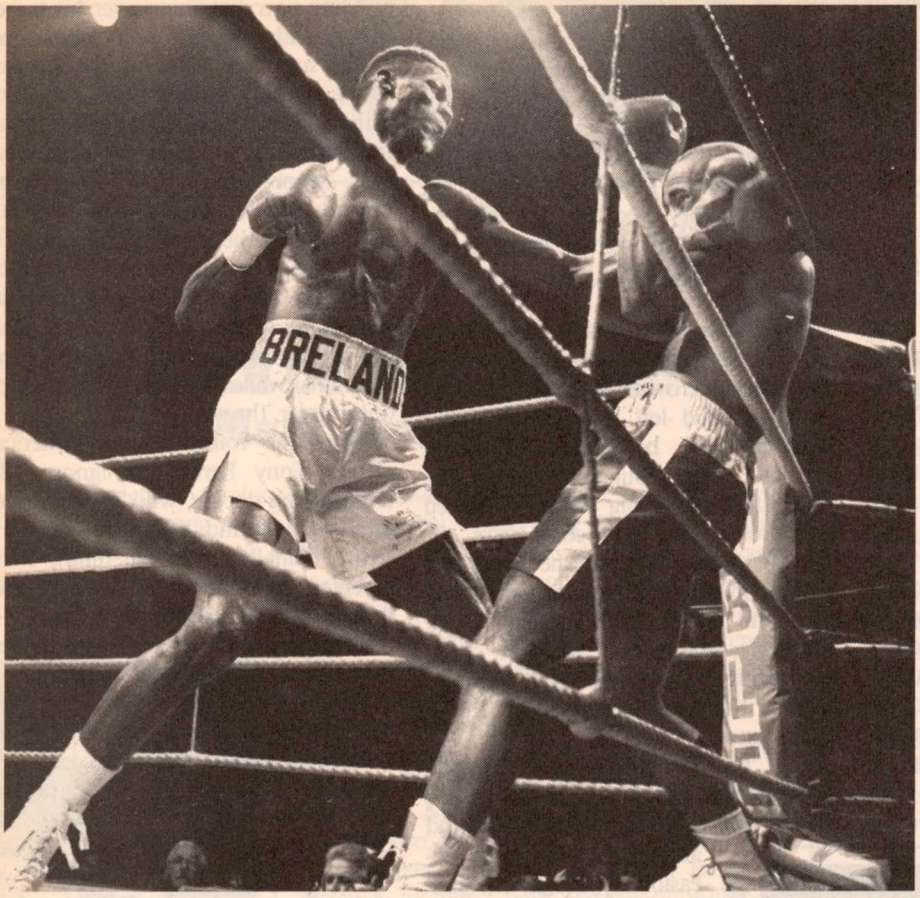
The WBC supervisor was Hong Kong's Antonio Martinez. The promoter was Alan Kim's Palpal Promotions. The match was televised in Korea by KBS.
(1-20-90)

Joe Koizumi

MARK BRELAND-LLOYD HONEYGHAN

LONDON—It was a case of better late than never when Mark Breland defended the WBA welterweight crown against former champion Lloyd Honeyghan. This matchup was first scheduled three years ago, when each fighter had a perfect record and the volatile Honeyghan was undisputed welterweight king.

As it turned out, Honeyghan trashed his WBA belt in a garbage can for political reasons, and Breland eased forward to claim it by belting out South African Harold Volbrecht in the seventh round in February '87. Both fighters subsequently lost world titles to Marlon Starling.



Mark Breland pummels a helpless Lloyd Honeyghan

National Promotions, fronted by Jarvis Astaire, was the promoter for this encounter, which lasted 495 painful seconds, or until Panamanian referee Julio C. Alvarado was obligated to lead Honeyghan, 147, back to his corner.

The first punch of the bout, a looping right, caught Breland, 146½, but it was Honeyghan's last clean punch to hit its target. The distance between the two widened as Breland jabbed and moved laterally, with a stiff-legged Honeyghan in pursuit. Whenever Honeyghan settled, Breland shot out a right cross that had little trouble penetrating Honeyghan's guard.

The first of six knockdowns came after Breland had moved left and started to throw a jab before switching his weight and turning the jab into a long hook. The shot crashed onto the side of Honeyghan's jaw from a high, blind angle, and the Londoner dropped with a smack to the canvas. When he rose, Breland followed up and scored with a good right, but Honeyghan was in a desperate avoidance mode and lasted to the bell. On his stool, Honeyghan looked confused, and blood trickled from a cut under his left eye that was now swelling.

As the second round started, a half-empty Wembley Arena screamed for the boxer most of the English fans love to hate. But Breland's fight plan continued on schedule, as the same left hook that had scored in the first round dumped Honeyghan for the second time. He was up at five but under fire, and his legs seemed to have switched composition and turned to concrete. In his hurry, Breland neglected his jab and instead concentrated on big hooks and long crosses that Honeyghan managed to roll from or take on his arms or gloves. At the end of the round, a well-placed combination once again had Honeyghan dazed and on the deck for a count of eight.

The challenger, with half his head shaven in respect for African warriors from the past, did not look at his cornermen during the break. He rose for the third round battered with blood, and with red blotches visible around his face and shoulders.

The wipe-out continued. An unsteady Honeyghan was wrong-footed by a Breland feint, and a right cross sent him sprawling down the ropes and back to the canvas. Upon his damaged foe's rise, Breland jabbed Honeyghan to a corner and poked for gaps. A whipping left uppercut broke through the fading defense and lifted the Londoner off his feet and down again for a count of six.

The fight was coming to an end for Honeyghan, who was caught in retreat by a selection of Breland's punches and nailed in a corner, where almost 30 punches went without reply. Finally, two clipping hooks initiated Honeyghan's final fall. A thoroughly beaten Honeyghan was up before 10, but Alvarado intervened. Breland was still the champion after 2:15 of the third round.

The rest of the bill went as it should have, with young Briton prospect Gary Logan, 149, taking Smokin' Joe Travers, St. Louis, out in the fifth round. Logan dominated, and when Travers, 149, was hit and dropped by a right, referee Larry O'Connell called it off at the 1:25 mark.

York's Henry Wharton, 166, wore down Joe Potts, 158, then dropped and stopped the American import after 2:58 of the fourth round.

Hyped cruiserweight Darren Westover, 191½, Ilford, was given a tough workout by Nottingham's crude Steve Osborne, 190, who was halted after 2:20 of the fifth round.

Michael Gale, 178, a puncher from Leeds, blasted out Devon's Paul Vosper, 175½, at 2:47 of the second round.

Bethnal Green's Derek Grainger, 151¼, went to 13-0 with a rugged six-round stoppage of Atlanta's Jerry Smith, 148½, at the 1:55 mark. (3-3-90)

Steve Bunce

MUANGSHAI KITTIKASEM-JEUNG JAE LEE

BANGKOK, THAILAND—Muangshai Kittikasem, the IBF junior flyweight champion, made good use of his longer reach and superior power in disposing of unknown Korean chal-

lenger Jeung Jae Lee in less than one minute of the third session in a scheduled 12-round title bout at Lumpinee Stadium. The 22-year-old champion registered his second defense since wresting the crown by controversial decision over Filipino Tacy Macalos in Bangkok last May. Kittikasem is a former Thai kickboxing champion. As a pro boxer, he is 9-0 (6).

In the first round, Lee fought gamely and threw roundhouse lefts and rights at the cautious champion. Kittikasem remained prudent and traded stinging lefts in an attempt to feel out the challenger. But the champion turned loose in the next round. He caught Lee with solid combinations to the face, followed by a straight right, which sent the Korean to the canvas. Kittikasem then tried for the finish, cornering his prey with a barrage of punches. Lee went down again, but his pride and determination allowed him to stand up again. Though he was saved by the bell, the end was a matter of time.

In the fatal third, Lee looked so helpless that Australian referee Trevor Christian declared a halt to save the loser from further punishment. The sell-out crowd cheered the lopsided victory.

Lee fell to 14-2-1. The Korean's qualifications must be doubted. He had been ranked just 10th by the Korean Commission, and was given a number 10 rating by the IBF to qualify for this title try.

Despite his TKO triumph, the champion wasn't pleased.

"I could have finished him in the second round," he said. "I must improve my technique."

Kittiksaem needs more sophistication. He is just a hard-hitting, upright stylist. He is likely to travel to the United States to meet Michael Carbajal, but his promoter, Songchai Rattanasuban, wants a crack at compatriot Sot Chitalada's WBC flyweight throne, because of the Thai's problems in making 108 pounds.

(1-19-90)

Joe Koizumi

BONG JUN KIM-PETCHAI CHUVATANA

KYONGKIDO, SOUTH KOREA—Bong Jun Kim, the WBA minimumweight champion, 104¾, made his third defense by flattening Thai challenger Petchai Chuvatana, 104, 7-0-1 (7), at 1:15 of the fourth round in a scheduled 12-rounder at Sungnam Gymnasium. Chuvatana, a southpaw ranked 10th by the WBA, was regarded as an easy challenger for Kim. The Korean had acquired the WBA title in the lightest class via seventh-round TKO over Agustin Garcia in April 1989. Though decisioning compatriot Sam Joong Lee and stopping Indonesian John Arief, Kim had been castigated for his lack of convincing power. Recently, however, he's shown progress in this area.

The 26-year-old Kim, four years his foe's senior, cautiously circled to the left and respected the Thai's vaunted left-hand power. Kim landed enough long rights to win the opening stanza. The second saw Chuvatana turn loose with powerful lefts, but Kim utilized his footwork and retaliated with counter rights to the face. It was an even round.

Having solved the puzzling lefty's style, Kim commenced his busy infighting and began a body attack after cornering the challenger. In the closing seconds of the third, Chuvatana landed a right hook and rocked the champion, but he didn't follow up well. In the fourth, Kim aggressively pinned the challenger to the ropes and swarmed over him with unanswered punches to the face. The Thai finally fell face-first toward the canvas. After American referee Steve Smoger tolled the fatal 10-count, the loser remained stretched flat.

Kim, 21-5-3 (9), had beaten Hideyuki Ohashi by an upset decision in Tokyo in March 1986. Three days before Kim-Chuvatana, Ohashi became the new WBC 105-pound champion. A unification match would be eagerly anticipated.

The WBA supervisor was Panama's Bolivar Icaza. The promoter was Alan Kims's Palpal Promotions. The bout was televised in Korea by KBS.

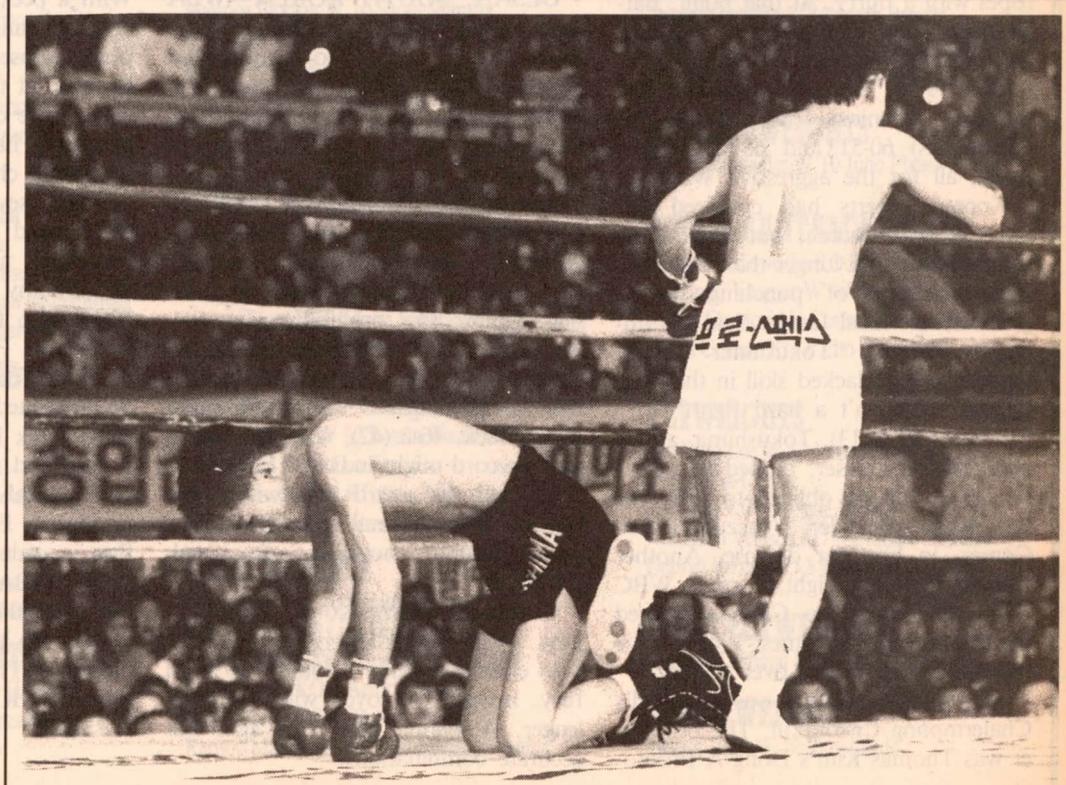
(2-10-90)

Joe Koizumi

YUH MYUNG WOO-HISASHI TOKUSHIMA

INCHON, SOUTH KOREA—Unbeaten 26-year-old Korean Yuh Myung Woo, 108, the WBA junior flyweight champion, registered his 14th defense as he dropped a fragile Japanese challenger Hisashi Tokushima, 108, six times, and chalked up a TKO victory at 1:30 of the seventh round in a scheduled 12.

About 20,000 fans were in attendance at the Sunin University Gymnasium, as they praised their hero's one-



Yuh Myung Woo drops a fragile Hisashi Tokushima

sided triumph. The 21-year-old Tokushima, the former Japanese strawweight champion, used stick-and-move tactics in the opening round. But from the second round on, Woo kept the pressure on and cut off the ring. The Korean peekaboo stylist was in command in the second and third rounds. In round four, Woo connected with solid body shots and floored the challenger in the closing seconds.

German Torres, the former WBC light flyweight champion from Mexico, was the chief second of Tokushima. He entered the ring while American referee Rudy Battle was counting against the fallen Japanese. Battle ordered Torres to leave the ring, and Tokushima beat the count and returned to his corner.

The fifth round saw another fiasco, with Woo flooring his groggy foe thrice. Battle forgot the WBA's three-knockdown rule and allowed Tokushima to fight on, and the bell again came to his rescue.

Tokushima hit the deck twice more in the sixth.

In the fatal seventh, Woo went all out for a kayo, forcing his foe to the ropes with a flurry. At that point, Battle halted the fight. After six rounds, the scoring was: Larry Hazzard Jr. (USA) 59-50, Narciso Macachor and Silvestre Abaninza (both from the Philippines) 60-51 and 60-52, respectively, all for the aggressive Woo.

Korean experts had criticized this fight as a mismatch, but Tokushima fought better and longer than expected. The difference of punching power proved the critical factor. Said the unbeaten Woo, "Tokushima fought gamely, but he lacked skill in the close quarter. It wasn't a hard fight."

Woo is 33-0 (13). Tokushima, a pale and crestfallen loser, dipped to 16-4-1 (8). Woo will be obliged to meet the top WBA contender, Venezuela's Leo Gamez, in his next defense. Another Korean light flyweight, former WBC champion Jung Koo Chang, retained the title a record 15 times. Woo can tie the mark with a win over Gamez.

The WBA supervisor was Thailand's Chalermpong Cheosakul. The promoter was Thomas Kim's Dong-A Promotions. The bout was televised in Korea by MBC.
(1-14-90)

Joe Koizumi

In Chul Baek celebrates his successful title defense

IN CHUL BAEK-YOSHIAKI TAJIMA

ULSAN, SOUTH KOREA—WBA super middleweight champion In Chul Baek, 168, proved too strong and powerful for Japanese challenger Yoshiaki Tajima, 166¼, battering him all the way en route to a TKO victory at the end of the seventh round in a scheduled 12-rounder at Hyundai Gymnasium. Tajima, the OPBF middleweight champion, was a short southpaw who attempted to work inside against the prohibitive favorite. But Baek, 29, outjabbed and outpunched the 31-year-old Tajima, giving him no openings to score with good shots. Baek, 46-2 (42), wasn't as sharp as his record might indicate. He looked slow, and his guard was wide-open. But that is his normal style. The champion wasn't, however, in peak condition.

In round two, the Korean felled Tajima with a counter right uppercut. The champion didn't follow up with fury. Instead, he toyed with the challenger, peppering him with light but accurate combinations.

The fourth round saw Baek rotate his right hand, a la Sugar Ray Leonard, and keep punching the Japanese from all angles. As a result, Tajima's right eye became puffed. Baek also dominated the fifth and sixth rounds, and tried for a finish in the seventh. With a peekaboo style that proved ineffective, and with his right eye completely closed, Tajima was persuaded to retire at the end of round seven. It was a wise decision; Tajima, 9-5-1 (5), obviously had no chance to hurt the defending champ.

After seven rounds, Lou Tabat (USA) and Fritz Werner (USA) both had Baek ahead by scores of 70-60, and Manny Pinol (Philippines) had it 70-62, also for Baek. The referee was Thailand's Pinij Prayadsub.

It was Baek's second defense since he dethroned Fulgencio Obelmejias last May. Baek is next scheduled to go to France and risk his throne against unbeaten local favorite Christophe Tiozzo in March. Baek will need to hone his fists in order to keep his title.

The WBA supervisor was Jose Macachor of the Philippines. The promoter was Ho Yun Chun's Kukdong Promotions. The bout was televised in Korea by KBS.
(1-13-90)

Joe Koizumi □

WORLDWIDE RESULTS

Breland won in three rounds

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Ray Mercer W 12 Kimmuel Odom
Bert Cooper KO 8 Orlin Norris
Tony Tucker W 10 Mike Evans
Maurice Chanet W 12 Derek Williams
Bonecrusher Smith KO 6 Manuel Clay de Almeida
Jose Ribalta KO 2 Jack Johnson
Terry Anderson KO 1 Joe Adams
Henry Tillman KO 2 Tim Morrison
Mark Lee W 12 Jim Ashard
Kevin Ford KO 3 Richard Cade
Jack Johnson W 10 Steve Unterholtzer
Riddick Bowe KO 3 Mike Robinson

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Bash Ali W 12 Patrick Lumumba
Derek Angol KO 2 Eddie Smith
Johnny Nelson KO 7 Dino Homsey
Markus Bott KO 3 Matthew Saad Muhammad
Johnny Held W 8 Ralf Rocchigiani

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Virgil Hill W 12 David Vedder
(Retains WBA Title)
Joe Lasisi KO 2 Patrick Dovon
Tony Harrison KO 9 Vincent Boulware
Guy Waters W 12 Yawe Davis
Alex Blanchard KO 5 Tony Curovic
Dan Morgan W 10 Jesse Abrams
Anthony Hembrick W 8 Keith McMurray

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Sugar Boy Malinga W 10 Tony Harrison
Dario Matteoni KO 2 Julio Gonzalez
John Jarvis W 12 Ken Shannon

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Ron Collins KO 5 Reggie Miller
Dennis Milton W 10 Jose Martinez
Merqui Sosa KO 1 Jose Quinones
James Toney KO 1 Phil Morefield
Royan Hammond W 10 Ernie Valentine

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
John David Jackson No Decision 11 Martin Camara
Rene Jacquot KO 8 Rocky Berg
Jorge Castro KO 4 Daniel Dominguez
Quincy Taylor W 10 Gilbert Baptist
Gary Stretch KO 6 Ramon Allegre
Mario Gaston W 10 Rollin Williams
Brett Lally KO 4 Nate Stewart
Frederic Seillier KO 4 Judas Clottey
Yung Kil Chung KO 3 Dae Hyon Yang
Roy Jones KO 2 Billy Mitchem

WELTERWEIGHTS
Mark Breland KO 3 Lloyd Honeyghan
(Retains WBA Title)
Antoine Fernandez W 10 Jorge Bracamontes
Maurice Blocker W 10 Saoul Mamby
Glenwood Brown KO 8 Luis Santana
Kenny Gould W 10 Jorge Maysonet
Vincent Pettway KO 3 James Hughes
Ernesto Espana KO 6 Delfino Marin
Miguel Angel Dominguez W 10 Julian Benitez

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Santos Cardona W 12 Ras-I Bramble
Terrence Alli W 10 Martin Quiroz
Greg Haugen KO 10 Memo Cruz
Lonnie Smith W 10 Juan Soberanes
Tony Baltazar KO 3 Pedro Laza
Efren Calamati W 12 Carlos Sole
Harold Brazier KO 6 Keheven Johnson
Timmy Burgess W 12 Bozon Haule
Lester Ellis KO 3 Luis Doria
Angel Sanchez KO 8 Felipe Julio
Nika Kumalo KO 1 Ramiro Lozano

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Tracy Spann W 10 Delmar Paisan
Poli Diaz KO 10 Lino Becchetti
Pedro Sanchez KO 3 Jose Luis Vasquez
Kelcie Banks KO 1 Arturo Lozano
Kelcie Banks KO 3 Ramon Ochoa
Ramon Marchena TW 5 Rolando Navarette

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Juan LaPorte W 12 Rogelio Lopez
Daniel Londas KO 8 Mark Reefer
Joey Jacobs W 12 John Doherty
Manuel Medina W 12 Rafael Ortega
Dingaan Thobela KO 10 Felipe Orozco
Eugene Speed W 10 Floyd Favors

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Pee Wee Parker W 12 Refugio Rojas
Miguel Francia W 12 Jose Mario Lopez
Lucio Lopez W 10 Fidel Avila
Rafael Zuniga D 10 Jaime Castellon

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Welcome Ncita W 12 Fabrice Benichou
(Wins IBF Title)
Jesus Salud W 10 Roberto Granciosa
(Non-Title Bout)
Jesse Benavides W 10 Jose Soto
Tracy Patterson KO 8 George Garcia
Jemal Hinton KO 7 Freddy Hernandez
Paquito Openio KO 3 Mark Brooks
Noree Jockygym W 10 Naoto Takahashi
Ray Minus W 12 Jimmy Navarro

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Victor Rabanales W 10 Julio Pliego

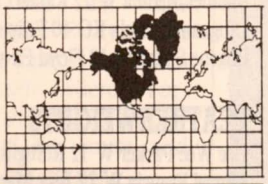
JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Akeem Anifowoshe KO 1 Alejandro Valenzuela
Fernando Varguez W 10 Gregorio Campos
Ruben Condori No Contest 3 Hugo Escudera
David Griman KO 8 Ebo Danquah

FLYWEIGHTS
Yul Woo Lee W 12 Jesus Rojas
(Wins WBA Title)
Joe Kelly KO 8 Reggie Brown
Armando Velasco KO 5 Evaristo Morales
Gabriel Bernal KO 5 Francisco Gonzalez

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS
Michael Carbajal W 12 Tony DeLuca

STRAWWEIGHTS
Hector Patri W 10 Raul Ojeda

The RING AROUND THE WORLD



NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

INGLEWOOD—Michael Dokes returned to the Great Western Forum and retained the WBA Intercontinental heavyweight title when he stopped **Jorge Dascola**, Argentina, in the 11th round of their scheduled 12-rounder. Dokes, 246½, Miami, had the challenger down four times in the fight, and when Dascola's corner threw in the towel after 2:05 of the round, Dascola protested vehemently to no avail. The referee and crowd however had seen enough of the one-sided fight that proved to be an excellent workout for Dokes in preparation for his bout with Razor Ruddock on April 4.

Dokes came out serious and was intent on taking care of business, but it took him until the third round before Dascola started backing off. Dokes finally connected in the sixth round, flooring Dascola for the first time in his amateur or pro career. Dascola got up at eight, was very upset, and came back swinging. Dascola suffered a cut on the side of the left eye in the seventh, and got tagged again in the ninth, but because it was late in the round, Dascola survived. Dokes floored him for the third time in the 10th, but Dascola was more angry than hurt, and he hurt Dokes with a left hook that sent him back onto the ropes.

Dokes got more than he bargained for from the durable Argentine while improving to 41-2-2 (29). Dascola was applauded by the crowd for his gallant effort, but nevertheless dropped to 14-3 (9) in his first appearance in the United States. Dascola, 210¼, has a reputation in Argentina of being a big-game hunter, but he came up short against Dokes, who continues his quest for a title shot.

Elio Diaz, 154, Venezuela, returned from a 17-month layoff to win a split decision against Derrick "Hurricane" Kelly, 153½, Los Angeles, in The Forum super welterweight tournament. Kelly, once a world-ranked welterweight, has now lost two consecutive fights and needs to seriously consider his future. Diaz won the bout because of his continued aggresion in the 10-round fight. There were no knockdowns, and perhaps because Kelly took the fight at short notice, his lack of conditioning made him look bad in the later rounds. Diaz improved to 35-3 (30), while Kelly fell to 24-3-2. The judges had it 96-94 and 96-95 for Diaz, and 97-93 for Kelly.

Gabriel Ruelas, 129¾, Arleta, remained unbeaten at 19-0 (11) when he stopped Arturo Hernandez, 130¾, Guadalajara, Mexico, in the third round. Hernandez was repeatedly in trouble and dropped to 52-24-4 (28).

Rafael Ruelas, 125, Arleta, had some trouble in taming the much shorter "Kid" Milo, 125½, Culiacan, Mexico, but knocked him out in the fifth round. He improves to 13-0 (11), while Milo slipped to 21-19 (11).

Charles Kirk "Kid" Young, 146, Los Angeles, outpointed Joe Varela, 146¾, New Bedford, Massachusetts, over five hard-fought rounds. Young is 5-2-2 and Varela 4-3-3.

Salvador Villa, 140, Mexicali, decisioned Gerardo Lopez, 138¼, Bell, to improve to 4-2 (3). The plucky Lopez stands at 8-3 (7).

Promoter: Forum Boxing
Matchmaker: Antonio Curtis
(2-5-90)

LOS ANGELES—The vastly improved **Edward "Pee Wee" Parker**, 125, Houston, had little trouble in defending the WBA Americas featherweight title over veteran **Refugio Rojas**, 125, Los Angeles, at the Great Western Forum. A star-studded audience enjoyed the 12-rounder, and although Parker had his opponent down three times, Rojas appeared to be in excellent shape, especially for a fighter who had been out of action for 17 months. Parker, on the other hand, has become a crowd-pleaser, as well as a skilled boxer, and if he keeps up this pace he could soon be landing a title shot.

Parker forced the pace from the opening bell, and caught Rojas with a right hook in the second round. Rojas was more stunned than hurt, and fought back gamely to keep Parker at bay. The fast pace continued through to the fourth, when Rojas hit the canvas again following a Parker left hook. Rojas got up quickly, only to absorb more punishment before being saved by the bell. The slugfest continued into the fifth, with both fighters dishing it out. The pace slightly dropped in the middle rounds as both fighters kept going at full steam. Rojas caught Parker twice with solid punches in round eight, but Parker floored Rojas for the third and final time with an avalanche of punches in the 10th round. The bell saved Rojas as Parker moved in for the kill.

Rojas stayed on his feet the final two rounds and the crowd was on its feet to applaud the two boxers. Parker got the nod, 114-111 twice, and 115-111, improving to 20-3-2 (8), while the 34-year old Rojas slipped to 32-16-1, although most of his losses have come at the hands of current or former world champions.

Another fighter coming off a lengthy layoff, Quincy Taylor, 153½, Dallas, won a unanimous decision over Gilbert Baptist, 153½, San Diego. Taylor dominated throughout and moved ahead in the Forum super welterweight tournament. He improved to 12-1 (9), while Baptist dropped to 17-8 (5).

Roger Mayweather was in the corner of his brother Jeff, who defeated Conrad Lugo over six rounds. Mayweather, 135½, Las Vegas, got caught by the big-punching Lugo in the second round, but he failed to follow up, as Mayweather used his superior boxing skills to win a unanimous decision. Jeff Mayweather remains unbeaten at 10-0-1 (2), and Lugo, 132½, slipped to 5-1 (3).
(2-26-90)

LOS ANGELES—The battling Ruelas brothers headlined yet another Ten Goose boxing card, and as usual they did not disappoint their fans. Both brothers won by knockout to remain unbeaten, although younger brother Rafael had to get up from the canvas to keep his record intact.

Gabriel Ruelas, 134½, Arleta, stopped **Dana Roston**, 136, Las Vegas, at 2:31 of the third round after Roston had been knocked down twice. Ruelas proved to be too rough and overpowering. Roston, who tried valiantly to keep him at bay, was just plain worn out by the non-stop bodypunching of Ruelas. Roston dropped to 15-13-2 (8). Ruelas improved to 20-0 (12).

Rafael Ruelas found himself in a war with Roberto Rios. He had to get off the floor in the opening round, and stopped Rios in 1:37 of the second. In one of the most exciting rounds ever seen at the Country Club, both fighters came out swinging in the first, with Rios getting the better of it. Even though Ruelas got tagged with a big blow, his corner never panicked and helped get him through the round.

A combination of punches put Rios on the canvas in the second, and he decided to stay on his knees rather than absorb more punishment. Ruelas, 125, Arleta, will learn a lot from this experience. He advanced to 14-0 (12). Rios, an unlucky loser, dropped to 16-9 (10).

Light heavyweight action saw Nate Houser, 13-2 (6), return to the winner's circle after outpointing Jerry Okoro, Los Angeles, 17-10-2, over six rounds. Even though Houser, 171½, Santa Ana, won only a split decision on the cards, he was always in control of the fight and did a fine job against the hard-punching Okoro, who never really got through.

Joe Martinez, 123½, Hanford, 9-3-1, proved too much for Charles Hawkins, 124½, 4-3-1, Phoenix, stopping him after 1:13 of the first round. Hawkins must have felt that he was walking headlong into an express train, as he took a terrible beating. Referee Burton Gilliam stopped the fight.
(2-27-90)

Michael Hepworth

FLORIDA

DAYTONA—Jackie Robinson Ballpark—Heavyweight **Henry Tillman**, 214, Diamond Bar, California, ended a 20-month layoff with an easy 10-round unanimous decision over limited **Lee Daniel Wofford**, 226, Spartanburg, South Carolina. Tillman, 18-4, last fought in March 1988.

Against Wofford, Tillman clearly was the better fighter, but he wasn't sharp enough to put away his foe. The scores were 100-89, 100-90, and 98-92. Wofford's record is 8-6-1.

Sharing main-event status was 20-year-old Melton Bowen, 214½, Carol City, who had another easy night against another mediocre opponent. Bowen, 15-1, (13), knocked out Jack Johnson, 203½, Miami, at 45 seconds of the first; scheduled for 10. The punch that ended it was a thudding right to Johnson's head.

Local middleweight Daryl Fromm, 170, Holly Hill, rebounded from a decision loss to Buster Drayton in September with a first-round kayo of inept David Cox, 161, Miami. The fight was scheduled for 10 rounds. Fromm, 22-5, took Cox out at the 1:11 mark with a crackling left hook that put Cox, a reported 2-3, on the canvas for several minutes. Cox has been suspended indefinitely from fighting in Florida by the state commission for "lack of ability."

Bert Cooper, 225¼, Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania, came away with a no decision from his scheduled eight-round fight with Mike Cohen, 214½, Hilton Head, South Carolina. Cooper, 28-5, was comfortably ahead on all cards when the fight was stopped in the sixth round after Cohen was charged with his fourth low blow.

Felix Camacho, 134½, Clewistown, stopped Melvin Robinson, 142, the Bronx, New York, at 1:22 of the second of a scheduled six-rounder. The 23-year-old brother of "Macho" Camacho put Robinson down in the second. Robinson beat the count, but was obviously in trouble. Camacho was battering Robinson, who languished on the ropes, prompting referee Victor Perez to step in and stop the bout. Camacho improved to 8-0; Robinson dropped to 7-4.

In the walkout, Mitchell Sammons, 269, Land O Lakes, knocked out Rick Hoard, 238½, Centralia, Illinois, at 15 seconds of the first round; scheduled for four. Sammons is 2-0, while Hoard fell to 10-9.
Promoter: Rick Parker Presents
Referees: Telis Assimenios, Victor Perez
Judges: Jim Aylesworth, Tony Palermo, Harding McCain
Timekeeper: Mark Skilbred
Attendance: 500 (estimated)
(12-9-89)

MIAMI—Former WBC junior bantamweight champion **Sugar Baby Rojas**, now campaigning as a junior featherweight, knocked out a limited but

dogged **Javier Guido** at 2:59 of the fifth; scheduled for 10.

Guido, 124½, Miami via Nicaragua, rushed out of his corner at the opening bell and tried to smother Rojas, 124, Miami Beach, under a flurry of relatively ineffective punches. But after the first 45 seconds, things settled down with each man doing a lot of tentative jabbing and peeking out from behind gloves held high.

An unintentional clash of heads early in the second frame had Guido backing off and touching his glove to his head to see if he was bleeding. As the round wore on, Rojas, 32-3-1, began to score consistently with snapping jabs and hard right hands. Guido, 27-7-4, was crude and awkward, but he hung tough despite eating a considerable amount of leather. Rojas blocked most of Guido's punches on his gloves and arms, and countered with crisp shots to the head and left hooks to the body.

Rojas had the fight well in hand when, just as the timekeeper sounded 10 seconds remaining in the fifth, the Colombian landed a big left hook to the head that put Guido on his back. Guido staggered to his feet at "10," but referee Bernie Soto would not let him continue.

Rojas, ranked sixth by the IBF, said afterward that he feels good fighting at the heavier weight "because I'm stronger and more confident; I didn't have that confidence before." Of the punch that ended things, Rojas said, "I was watching him protect the cut [over the right eyebrow], and I was just waiting for an opening to land the left hook."

In a fight billed as a "semi-feature," lightweight John Fonte, 133, Ft. Lauderdale, rolled to a masterful eight-round unanimous decision over Jose "Pepe" Rivera, 139, Miami Beach. Fonte, 9-1-1, started very quickly, showing a stiff, stinging jab and accurate combination punching that kept Rivera, 9-6-2, on the defensive. Rivera returned fire, but he did not have the quickness to tag his constantly moving adversary. Fonte kept up his offensive pace through round two, as he frustrated Rivera by slipping and blocking the Colombian's counter shots.

But Fonte began to slow in the third, primarily because he was still feeling the effects of a cold and was having some difficulty breathing. Fonte picked up things in the fourth; Rivera, frustrated and tiring, was wearing down, and Fonte knew it. He peppered Rivera's face with combos and was particularly effective in the fifth, with Rivera backed up against the ring ropes. Through the sixth and seventh rounds, Fonte slowed again and did just enough to win each round. In the eighth, Rivera was the aggressor, but Fonte eluded most of his shots and countered well whenever Rivera missed.

The scores reflected Fonte's dominance, as all three judges saw him an 80-72 winner.

In a heavyweight clash, 39-year-old Dr. Harold "Hackie" Reitman, 212, Plantation, ran his record to 2-0 with a stunning kayo of debuting Brian Spicer, 233, Miami, at 23 seconds of the first; scheduled for four. Reitman, an orthopedic surgeon and 1971 New England Golden Gloves heavyweight champion, crushed the soft Spicer with a thunderous right to the jaw. The good doctor followed up with anothwer right as Spicer was crashing to the canvas like a tree. It was several minutes before Spicer was able to leave the ring under his own power.

The fighting McClendon brothers saw action on this card, with mixed results. Johnnie McClendon, 154, Opa Locka, won a four-round majority decision over lanky Clinton Mack, 153, Miami. The scores were 40-36, 39-37, and 38-38. McClendon is 3-2-1; Mack, 3-4-1.

Michael McClendon, 129, Miami, locked horns with Israel Camacho, 129, Hollywood, in a four-rounder that ended in a draw. The scores were 39-37 (McClendon) and 38-38 (twice). McClendon's record is 3-4-1, while Camacho, a nephew of "Macho" Camacho, was making his professional debut.

Promoter: Tiburon Promotions, Inc.
Referees: Billy Yoham, Bernie Soto
Judges: Rick Bays, Stu Winston, Robert Balogh, Al Wilensky
Timekeeper: Roy Carlson
Attendace: 350 (estimated)
(1-12-90)

HOMESTEAD—South Dade Flea Market—**Angel Sanchez**, a promising junior welterweight, ran his record to 10-0 (8) with a TKO of **Denzil Surall** at 50 seconds of the third round; scheduled for eight. The 22-year-old Sanchez was impressive despite weighing 146, three pounds heavier than his handlers wanted. But he was just glad this one came off, albeit at practically the last minute.

One scheduled opponent was under suspension in another state, and another candidate failed to gain the approval of the Florida State Athletic Commission. On the day of the fight, Angelo Dundee contacted promoter Johnny Torres (who also manages and trains Sanchez) to offer the services of Surall, who was training for a fight in California. A match was made.

Surall, 140, Miami, displayed decent skills, but Sanchez carried more power in his punches and outquicked his taller opponent. Sanchez scored early and often with snapping jabs followed by hard left hooks to the head, but Surall's experience helped carry him through some of Sanchez' heaviest action. But Sanchez kept coming, and throwing, and landing. He hurt Surall late in the second round with a left hook to the head and put him on the canvas a round later with the third in a series of stinging left hooks. Surall beat the count, but referee Armando Garcia would not let the fight continue. Surell dropped to 17-9.

A supporting six-rounder between Rafael Rodriguez, 152¾, Homestead, and Martin Ryals, 158¾, Goulds, was an ugly affair that saw Rodriguez pummel Ryals so relentlessly that the latter's corner surrendered after three rounds.

Ryals is 34, but he looked as if he were in his 40s. Against the 25-year-old Rodriguez, the soft, balding Ryals was outgunned. There was a lot of infighting, but Rodriguez landed four times as many punches as did his foe. Rodriguez, 8-5, doubled and tripled up on left hooks to Ryals' wide-open head and was particularly effective when he followed up those shots with straight right hands. Ryals, a reported 17-5, was clearly in trouble from the get-go, but he hung tough despite sustaining a cut over his left eye (the result of an unintentional head butt) and a steady, punishing diet of leather. By the end of round three, Ryals had had enough.

Ryals' brother, Kenny, 169¾, Homestead, had a tough time with Jack Brunson, 162¾, Miami, but managed to eke out a split decision win. The action was furious, as each man dished out a lot of punishment, but neither would back away or go down until the sixth. That's when Brunson finally dropped in his corner, as much from exhaustion as from the shots he took. The scores were 58-55 and 57-56 for Ryals, and 58-56 for Brunson. Ryals improved to a reported 18-5, while Brunson slipped to 1-2.

Dr. Harold "Hackie" Reitman, 210, Plantation, recorded his third abbreviated win against no losses as he knocked out a disinterested David Perry, 240, Ft. Lauderdale, at 1:50 of the first; scheduled for four. A left hook, followed by a short right uppercut, stunned Perry and caused him to turn his back to Reitman. A clubbing overhand right that didn't look all that powerful put Perry down. Nonetheless, referee Bill Connors halted matters when Perry appeared dazed and confused. Perry was making his pro debut.

Abel Vargas, 134¾, Leisure City, won a four-round unanimous decision over Juan Rodriguez, 140, Homestead. Vargas' effective aggression and crisp combination punching kept Rodriguez on the defensive throughout. Vargas' record is a matter of conjecture; Rodriguez is 2-7.

Casey Glass, 170, Homestead, garnered a majority decision over Alberto Rodriguez, 167¼, Homestead, over an uneven four rounds. Glass is 1-2; Rodrigues, 0-5.

In the walkout, Dion Steward, 149, Homestead, stopped debuting Jerome Wilson, 143½, Miami, at 1:25 of the first; scheduled for four. Steward improved to 2-0.

Promoter: America's Boxing Gym, Inc.
Referees: Armando Garcia, Bill Connors
Judges: Rick Bays, Mark Streisand, Irv Abramson, Mary Mosca
Timekeeper: Roy Carlson
Attendance: 300 (estimated)
(1-19-90)

HALLANDALE—Diplomat Hotel—This card seemed doomed when matchmaker Chris Dundee was hospitalized after having a massive stroke only three days before the show was to come off. Because no one but Dundee knew what arrangements had been made with the fighters involved, the promoters considered cancelling the card.

But Louis DeCubas and Cliff Castle, aka Uppercut Promotions, Inc., stepped in to rescue it. Despite the last-minute heroics, this one, which featured two exhibition matches, was not particularly memorable. And two Bahamian fighters were still in their Miami hotel rooms several days later, waiting to be paid.

In one of two scheduled 10-round main events, **Phillip Jackson**, 196, Miami, upped to 8-0 at the expense of **Lee Daniel Wofford**, 210½, Spartanburg, South Carolina, 8-7-1 (1). Wofford failed to answer the bell for the fifth round.

Also featured was a 10-round go between Steve Larrimore, 139½, Nassau, Bahamas, and Nestor Obregon, 139, Miami. Larrimore improved to 19-4 as he stopped Obregon, 24-7, at 1:45 of the fourth.

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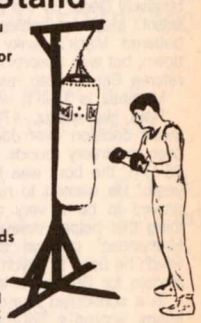

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Camputaro, 123, Southington, Connecticut, gain an eight-round majority decision over Quincy Pratt, 123, Nassau, Bahamas. The scores were, 77-75 (twice) for Camputaro, and 76-76. Camputaro is 28-3, while Pratt is 6-2.

In the walkout, Charlton Hollis, 204¼, Ft. Lauderdale, recorded his second win without a loss, stopping Antonio Whiteside, 198, Talors, South Carolina, at 1:12 of the second; scheduled for six. Whiteside is 2-5.

In a pair of exhibitions, WBA cruiserweight champion Robert Daniels went three rounds with Anthony Martinez and Pedro Riveron, while Michael Olajide matched up for three frames against Phil D'Amelia and Richard Curry.

Promoter: Uppercut Promotions, Inc.
Referees: Juan Arias, Eddie Eckert
Judges: Rick Bays, Mark Conn, Irv Abramson, Robert Balogh
Timekeeper: Sam Guralnick
(1-24-90)

HIALEAH—Milander Auditorium—A large and enthusiastic crowd, including Alexis Arguello and Roberto Duran, was on hand for the first professional boxing card promoted by city Councilman Julio Martinez in three years. But like a fighter who has been out of the ring for an extended period of time, the card showed signs of ring rust.

The main event was a scheduled 10-round pairing of talented welterweights **Nelson Solano**, 148, Puerto Rico, 15-2-4 (9), and **Jose Bermudez**, 149, Miami, 18-0-2 (16). Bermudez is ranked by the WBA. On paper, it looked to be an entertaining go. For the first two rounds, it lived up to expectations. Bermudez worked the body effectively, but Solano won the first round with clean shots to the head. The second round featured torrid infighting and scorching exchanges. But with the infighting came a considerable amount of head contact. After one such collision, the area over Bermudez' left cheekbone swelled up and began trickling blood. Nonetheless, the Floridian was coming on and took the round.

Bermudez appeared to be taking control in the third round, but an unintentional clash of heads opened a nasty cut over Solano's left eyebrow, prompting referee Bill Connors to stop it. The fight was ruled a technical draw. Solano agreed with the stoppage, but claimed the gash was caused by Bermudez' intentional use of his elbows.

A scheduled eight-rounder between junior middleweights Jose Martinez, 154, Puerto Rico, and Clinton Mack, 153, Miami, was stopped at 2:45 of the sixth. Martinez, a southpaw, was ahead through five rounds, although Mack managed to keep things relatively close. By the sixth, however, Mack looked spent. Martinez backed him into the ropes and battered Mack's lanky frame. Mack did not go down, but was absorbing a lot of punishment when referee Bernie Soto rescued him.

Martinez is 13-1-1, while Mack fell to 3-5-1.

Raul Hernandez, 176½, Miami, won a unanimous decision over Jack Brunson, 167½, Miami, over six dreary rounds. For the stocky Hernandez, 25-17-3, the bout was his first in more than three years. He wanted to mix it up, but Brunson, 1-3, proved to be a very reluctant partner. The only thing that helped relieve the numbing tedium was Hernandez' comical facial and body gestures, which he used to psych himself up and to show his disdain for Brunson's lack of fighting spirit.

In a scheduled four-rounder, Alex Perez, 129¼, Miami, scored a TKO over debuting Alexis Perez, 135, Miami, at 1:04 of the second. Although Perez improved to 2-0-1, his handlers protested what they felt was a premature stoppage; they wanted their man to get more work in.

Pedro Riveron, 168, Miami, won a four-round unanimous decision over an awful Jose Vasquez, 165, Miami. Riveron is a mediocre 10-5, while Vasquez (who did this guy beat?) slipped to 5-4.

Alberto Zuluaga, 122, Miami, stopped Carlos Noguera, 123, Miami, at 2:04 of the first; scheduled for four. The win was Zuluaga's eighth without a loss; Noguera is 3-2.

Promoter: Julio Martinez Promotions, Inc.
Referees: Bill Connors, Bernie Soto
Judges: Rick Bays, Mark Conn, Al Wilensky
Timekeeper: Roy Carlson
Attendance: 800 (estimated)
(1-26-90)

JACKSONVILLE—Sheraton at St. Johns Place—Tampa heavyweight **Terry Anderson**, 228, knocked out **Joe Adams**, 212¼, Memphis, Tennessee, with eight seconds remaining in the first of a scheduled eight-rounder. Anderson improved to 19-2, while Adams fell hard to 8-16-1.

In another scheduled eight-rounder, Johnny "Malibu" Gutierrez, 153, Ft. Myers, ran his record to 20-3-1 with a TKO of Johnny Dillion, 156¾, Memphis, at 2:37 of the second frame.

A quartet of four-rounders filled out this card. David Claytron, 147½, Tallahassee, won a unanimous decision over Derrell Dixon, 143, Memphis. Clayton is 3-2.

Henry Henderson, 165, Jacksonville, evened his record at 1-1 with a unanimous decision over debuting Johnny Bartell, 167, Memphis.

Derrick Parks, 139, Easton, Pennsylvania, made a successful professional debut with a unanimous decision over Darryl Cox, 134, Memphis, although he was suspended for 30 days by the state commission for a cut over his eye.

Debuting Tony Cato, 142, Tallahassee, broke Michael Flowers' nose and took a unanimous decision over the 147-pounder from Memphis. Flowers dropped to 5-4.

Promoter: Big Time Boxing Promotions, Inc. (Phil Myers)
Referees: Telis Assimenios, Frank Santore
Judges: Frank Skilbred, Howard Reichbach, Dan Raicevich
Timekeeper: Mark Skilbred
Attendance: 450 (estimated)
(2-2-90)

Ken Knox

IDAHO

CALDWELL—Lightweight **Lorenzo Garcia**, 135, Caldwell, shook off a first- round knockdown to win a close but unanimous decision over an aggressive **Billy Martinez**, 235, Albany, Oregon.

Brian Fleming, 161, Boise, responded to a cut over his right eye by pouring on the heat and taking a unanimous four-rounder over Gene Pouliot, 162, Carson City.

Alberto Gonzales, 178, Carson City, scored a TKO in the sixth frame of a scheduled eight against J.J. Cottrell, 182, Salt Lake City.

Mark Ally, Salt Lake, came away the victor in a crowd-pleasing four-rounder with Caldwell's Ross Saldona. Ally is 1-1; Saldona, 1-1-1. Both fighters weighed 132.

Salt Lake's Tony Martinez, 145, 2-0, took out Caldwell's Pete Torres, 145, with a second-round body blow.

This was the first pro card to grace Idaho since 1986. The show was promoted by Rene Garcia and drew an estimated 600 fans. Several more shows are on the docket for Idaho in 1990.

Ed Walsh

INDIANA

INDIANAPOLIS—Sherwood Club—On Super Bowl Sunday, ESPN came to the Hoosier Capital for two title bouts. After a disappointing 1989, **Harold Brazier** needed to prove to the boxing world that he is still a world title contender. Almost completely healed from a rotator cuff injury suffered during his world title clash with Juan Coggi in early 1989, Brazier was as sharp as ever. The vacant IBF Intercontinental junior welterweight title was on the line as Brazier, 140, South Bend, and **Lalo Velazquez**, 140, Baldwin Park, California, crossed gloves.

The taller Velazquez was game, but no match for the clever veteran. Brazier used his defense to pick off most of his opponent's punches. Velazquez had a good second round, but the others were clearly Brazier's.

With the administration of an excellent body attack, Brazier lowered Velazquez' defense and stopped him with a TKO at 2:52 of the sixth round. Brazier is 65-10-1 (48) and is now ranked seventh by the IBF.

In other bouts, the USBA belt was risked by champion Eddie Rangel, 117¾, San Antonio, Texas, against Diego Avila, 118, El Centro, California. With many close rounds in the bout, Rangel seemed to take an early lead then was dropped with a short right in round six. In round 10, Avila lost a point for low blows. The action-packed bout was decided a draw. The scores were 115-112 for Avila, 115-111 for Rangel, and 114-114. The belt and title stayed with the champion.

In his pro debut, Canadian Olympian Scotty Olson, 115¼, Edmonton, looked good in winning a unanimous four-round decision over Dave Long, 118¾, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.

Clarence White, 157½, Indianapolis, won a four-round split decision over Joe Potts, 153½, Covington, Kentucky.

Rad Brewer, 243, Frankfort, got a four-round unanimous nod over Joe Adams, 214, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mike Pollitt, 172, New Lisbon, defeated Jerry Harris, 175½, Elkhart, by a four-round unanimous decision.

Promoters: Fred Berns, Top Rank, Inc.
Matchmakers: Pete Susens, Bruce Trampler
Referees: Bill Vaughn, George DeFabis, Sean Curtin
Judges: Fred Jones, John Caldwell, Lance Rhodes, Pete Podgorski, William Lerch, Gary Merritt
Timekeepers: Harold Paton, Ellie DeFabis
Television: ESPN
Attendance: 250 (estimated)
(1-28-90)

INDIANAPOLIS—Sherwood Club—Undefeated **Terry Thomas**, 150¼, Lafayette, won an easy eight-round decision over **Reggie Strickland**, 149, Cincinnati, Ohio. Thomas tried to make a fight out of the match, but Strickland seemed interested in surviving and not winning. Thomas did catch Strickland in the sixth stanza and dropped him twice. All three judges scored for Thomas, 80-69.

Clarence White, 156, Indianapolis, opened up a cut over Jake Torrence's left eye in the opening round. Torrence, the 156-pounder from Gary, was very much bothered by the blood flowing into his eye and did not answer the bell for round three. The cut was caused by a right hand landed by White.

In an excellent five-round brawl, Tim Bryan, 161, New Palestine, and Jesse Abrams, 164, Omaha, fought to a majority draw. Abrams lost a point for low blows, which cost him the victory. Both combatants gave their best efforts.

A good job of matchmaking was displayed in a majority win for Kevin Sedam, 138, Indianapolis, over Geroge Miracle, 140, Hamilton, Ohio. Great heart was shown over the four rounds by both warriors.

In a no decision bout, Shannon Landberg, 158½, Lafayette, and Alfonso Bailey, 258, Jersey City, New Jersey, showed their skills over four fast rounds. Shannon Landberg had been fighting under the name Shannon Lang.

Promoter: Fred Berns
Matchmaker: Pete Susens
Referees: Bill Vaughn, Pete Podgorski
Judges: Mike Kelley, Charlie Tudor, Gary Merritt
Timekeepers: Harold Paton, Fred Jones
Ring Announcer: Stu Goldner
Attendance: 408
(2-13-90)

INDIANAPOLIS—Sherwood Club—**Tim Tomashek**, 205, Whiting, put his Indiana heavyweight championship title on the line against **Ric Enis**, 197, Union City. The fast-paced 12-round contest was well fought—mostly of it on the inside. With many close rounds, Enis won a unanimous decision by scores of 116-115, 116-112, and 118-112.

Craig Houk, 142½, Greensburg, Indiana, finished off Sammy Black, 136, Memphis, at 1:02 of the third round with a TKO.

Dino Stewart, 178, Muncie, KO'd James Weaver, 175, Cincinnati at 1:13 of round two.

Kenny Brown, 146, Ft. Wayne, won a unanimous five-round decision over Reggie Strickland, 149, Cincinnati.

Alfonzo Bailey, 162, Indianapolis, TKO'd Richie Roberts, 165, Indianapolis, at 40 seconds of round four.

Promoter: Fred Berns
Matchmaker: Pete Susens
Referees: Bill Vaughn, George DeFabis
Judges: John Caldwell, Lance Rhodes, Gary Merritt
Timekeepers: Harold Paton, Ellie DeFabis
Attendance: 586
(2-27-90)

Gary L. Merritt

MARYLAND

PIKESVILLE—Pikesville Armory—Promoter Stuart Satosky dusted off the ring at the Pikesville Armory and brought back professional boxing to an area that had been dormant for several years. More than 1,500 paying fans witnessed the IBF's sixth-ranked welterweight, **Vincent "Charm City Assassin" Pettway**, 147, Baltimore, knock out a formidable opponent in **James Hughes**, 147, Mobile, Alabama. Hughes, who recently took Maurice Blocker 10 rounds in a losing decision, said the difference in this fight was "this guy hits a little harder."

Pettway, 30-2 (25), showed his old form in landing uppercuts, counter right hands, and left hooks. Pettway dropped Hughes in the third of their scheduled 10 with a right uppercut to the body that made him sink, and followed with a left hook to the head. Pettway sensed the kill and trapped Hughes in his

corner and finished him off with a left hook to the body, left hook to the head, and right uppercut. The bell rang and Hughes could not beat the count by referee Ray Klingmeyer. The end came at 3:08.

"We're definitely back," Pettway said after describing his knockout.

"We all get to go home early, especially me, being so close to home. I think my movement frustrated him because during the first round he kept coming forward, and when he realized he couldn't cut off the ring, he just stopped and made me bring the fight to him."

J. Russell Peltz, who promotes Pettway, added, "He was tentative in the beginning, but he started putting his punches together. The longer the fight went, the better it was in getting his confidence back."

The co-main event featuring Maryland junior welterweight champion Eddie Van Kirk, who recently gave Vinny Pazienza five rounds of tune-up work for his bout with Hector Camacho, had to be cancelled when the Maryland police arrested him on charges of non-support payments. There was still hope that the bout could go on, but Van Kirk could not be sprung in time. He was scheduled to take on New York's Alberta Alecia.

Giving away seven pounds, junior welterweight Antonio DeBarros, 138½, Cape Verde Islands, via Camp Spring, Maryland, won a 10-round unanimous decision over Jerry "Bagdi" Smith, 145, Atlanta, Georgia, 14-9. Smith, who had a picture of his young daughter taped to his left shoe, gave the taller DeBarros trouble on the inside and had him backing up frequently. There were no knockdowns, although DeBarros had Smith hurt in the eighth round with a straight right hand off a combination. The referee was Larry Barrett.

Angelo Dundee, who worked the corner of DeBarros, 17-1-1 (12), was pleased with the performance.

"He's a good-looking fighter. We have to work on a couple of things. He's a very adept young man. He speaks five languages and works in a law office. I look for big and bright things for him."

Veteran heavyweight Robert "The Magic Dragon" Coley, 242, Atlantic City, lost a six-round, no-action, crowd-booing contest to Warren "Chico" Thompson, 232½, Baltimore, 4-5. Referee: Milton Greene.

Keeping his undefeated streak alive, Percy Harris, 164½, Laurel, Maryland, scored a TKO at 2:41 of the third round over Dwight "The Hammer" Hunter, 158, Durham, North Carolina, 10-8. The scheduled six- rounder was somewhat close when Harris, 6-0 (6), suddenly had Hunter virtually out on his feet from combinations thrown in bunches. Hunter refused to go down, and referee Terry Moore came to the rescue.

Casey McCready, 125, Pasadena, had a favorable debut in stopping David "The Gucci Man" Scott, 126, Baltimore, 0-7, at 1:34 in the first round of a scheduled four. Referee: Terry Moore.

Cruiserweight Marion "Jackhammer" Wilson earned his first victory with a TKO over Bilail "Black" Mohammed, 189, Atlanta. The end came at 1:44 of the second round, when the southpaw Mohammed ran out of breath and stamina and couldn't continue. Wilson, 190, Hillcrest Heights, goes to 1-0-1, while Mohammed was making his debut. Karl Milligan refereed the scheduled four-rounder.

Promoter: Baltimore Pro Bouts, Stuart Satosky
Matchmaker: Johnny Bos
Timekeeper: Harry Cecchini
Judges: Ray Klingmeyer, Karl Milligan, Terry Moore, Milton Greene, Larry Barrett, Frank Kelly
Ring Announcer: Tony Baldoni
(2-13-90)

Fred Blumstein

MINNESOTA

ST. PAUL—Roy Wilkins Auditorium—Junior welterweight **Mike Evgen**, St. Paul, remained unbeaten when he took a unanimous 10-round decision over **Walter (Raheem Muhammad) Cowans Jr.**, Minneapolis, via Milwaukee. This bout was a rematch of their very close October match, but this time it was pretty much all Evgen. Evgen, at 140, looked his best as a pro, as he continuously pressed Cowans, not giving him any room to mount an attack. Evgen improved to 10-0, while Cowans' recorded record slipped to 16-55. The judges saw it for Evgen by margins of 97-94, 98-94, and 98-96. The referee was Denny Nelson.

World-rated Dan Morgan, 174, Bloomington, Minnesota, looked very sharp as he ran his record to 35-0 with a stoppage of Carlos Santistivan, 180, Lincoln, Nebraska, at 2:30 of the fourth round. Morgan used a double and triple left jab, followed by hard rights to the head, to continuously shake up Santistivan. In the fourth, a Morgan right to the jaw caused some damage to the mouth of the loser, which caused him to call "No Mas" at that point. The loss dropped Sanistivan to 7-5.

Improving Jack Basting, 199, St. Paul, 15-5, experienced some difficulty in taking a six-round decision over tough and clever Horace Craft, 198, Cudahy, Wisconsin, 2-1.

Former amateur star John Sargent, 245, Naytahwaush, Minnesota, 2-0, had no trouble stopping debuting Richie Holmes, 200, Milwaukee in the second round.

Richie Albrecht, 145, Coon Rapids, Montana, 9-0, returned to action after an 18-month layoff to take an entertaining four-round decision over Blaine Biers, 145½, Rochester, Minnesota, 1-2.

Ricky Rice, 216, Minneapolis, a wrestler, and Bill "The Wild Irish Rose" Corrigan, 242, Rosemount, Minnesota, made their pro debuts in a wild brawl that was won by Rice in the third round, when the referee called a halt with Corrigan on wobbly pins.

Promoter: Erin Productions (Joel Monpetit and Jim Rogers)
Attendance: 3,487
(2-28-90)

George D. Blair

NEBRASKA

OMAHA—"Irish" Dan Murphy, 195, Ralston, was given all he could handle against slugging **Ken Elliott**, 198, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in this scheduled 10-rounder. Murphy was feeling the after-effects of the flu and had much difficulty with the aggressive Elliott, a stocky Tony Galento type. Murphy, 27-3-1, was down once early in the fight before decking Elliott twice en route to a sixth-round kayo.

In a scheduled six-round semifinal, popular crowd rouser Dick "Raging Bull" Ryan, 230, made short work of Richard Moore, 205, Denver, Colorado, by taking him out with a left hook to the jaw in the first round. Ryan, Omaha, is 18-1.

Middleweight action saw crisp Ray Domenge, Omaha, impressive in licking Jerry Williamson, Oklahoma City, in a scheduled four. Domenge kayoed his foe in the second heat of a good fight. He's 3-0.

Undefeated Omaha cruiserweight Ken Schaefer pushed to 12-0 with a six-round unanimous decision over tough Dave Robinson, Oklahoma City. Schaefer was the aggressor throughout the exciting fight, but the scrappy Robinson bobbed and weaved his way all over the ring and kept Schaefer from scoring a kayo.

Mike Juarez, Omaha, was hard-pressed to beat tough Dickie Martin, Gillitte, Wyoming, in a fierce six-rounder that saw Juarez take a unanimous nod in their lightweight encounter.

Site: Peoney Park Ballroom
Promoters: F & F Berns
Ring Announcer: George Murphy
Referees: Ron Stander, Ben Belmont
Judges: Bob Ruiz, Dick McGinnis, Bill Murphy
Attendance: 1,100 (estimated)
Timekeeper: Ken Parker
(2-21-90)

Bob Ruiz

NEVEDA

LAS VEGAS—Akeem Anifowoshe, 21, five years removed from his native Nigeria, enhanced his reputation with a spectacular one-round TKO over more experienced **Alejandro Valenzuela**, 116½, a talented Mexican out of San Diego, in a scheduled 10.

Anifowoshe, 117, improved to 17-0 (12), while Valenzuela, 30-6 (14), suffered his first loss inside the distance.

Valenzuela, who scored early with a good combination, was stunned by a left after taking three quick jabs. He then caught the *coup de grace* after missing with a left. Anifowoshe countered with a booming right to the jaw and Alejandro was suddenly flat on his back at midring.

Valenzuela was still floundering as he just beat the count, but referee Carlos Padilla wisely stopped it at 2:50 of the opening round.

"I don't think there is a 115-pounder in the world who can take Akeem's punches. Now we want to go for the NABF title, one more fight after that and hopefully, bid for a world title shot in September," forecasted manager Billy Baxter. "When Anifowoshe started, he was hardly old enough to fight. Now he's grown up and he's ready. A lot of top guys say they'll fight him, but it's mostly talk."

Anifowoshe was pleased with his effort, but admittedly surprised over the early abbreviation in what was his first scheduled 10-round main event. The last time the immigrated African scored a one-

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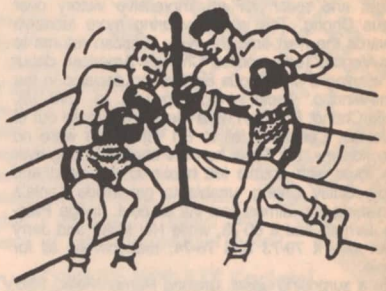

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round kayo was against Efren Chavez in January 1987.

"I wanted to take my time and work with my jab, doing my thing. I couldn't believe the quick ending. I thought it would go six or seven rounds, but not 10. I was looking for a tough fight," the slick boxer-pucher reflected.

Anifowoshe collected $5,000, while Valenzuela took home $3,000.

Albuquerque super flyweight Johnny Tapia, 15-0 (8), 114, parlayed accurate punching and superior height and reach for an impressive victory over Jesus Chong. The win may bring more lucrative rewards the next time the New Mexican returns to Las Vegas. Tapia spoiled Chong's American debut by winning a unanimous eight-round decision in the semi-windup. Tapia, 114, improved to 15-0 (8), while Chong, 8-1 (8), 112, a Mexican-Chinese out of Calexico, California, fell to 8-1 (8). There were no knockdowns, but Tapia hurt the shorter Chong over the route with double left hooks to the head and body. Gutsy Chong, unable to get inside Tapia's punishing jab, almost lost via shutout. Judge Patricia Jarman had it 80-73, while Hal Miller and Jerry Roth saw it 79-73 and 78-74, respectively, all for Tapia.

In a surprising upset, unsung Ramon Felix, 13-6, 156, Bell, California, broak the unbeaten string of Greg Lonon, 9-1-1 (6), 154, Las Vegas, scoring a TKO at 1:38 of the fifth round in a slated sixer. Referee, Padilla.

Chris Sande, 163, Las Vegas, moved to 6-0 (2) with a six-round decision over Robert Jackson, 163, Los Angeles, 6-11 (4).

Frankie Avelar, 127, Las Vegas, made it five wins in six with a knockout over Polo Maya, 125, Los Angeles, at 2:27 of the first round. Maya is 6-11 (4).

Juan Sanchez, 160, Las Vegas, recovered from a second-round knockdown to win a disputed four-round decision over Mike Sere, 160, Phoenix, Arizona. It was Sanchez' first pro win. Sere fell to 1-6.

Site: Hacienda Hotel
Promoter: Top Rank, Inc.
Television: Telemundo—Spanish cable network.
(2-16-90)

Jack Welsh

NEW JERSEY

ATLANTIC CITY—Trump Plaza Hotel & Casino—The Hispanic fighters continue to get beat whenever the Telemundo tour comes this way, as **Terrence Alli**, 142, New York City, took a unanimous decision from **Santos Cardona**, 144, San Juan, in a crown-pleasing 10. The two started in high gear, with furious insider trading even the SEC couldn't control. Cardona broke open a tight round just before the bell, when he buckled Alli's knees with a left hook counter. Terrence came right back in it in the second, forcing the action, staying inside Cardona's punches just enough to outscore him and back him up. In the third, Alli let it all go with an extended two-fisted volley to the bell.

"He hurt me in the first round," Alli was honest enough to admit, "but my determination pulled me through."

By the fifth, Cardona seemed to feel it was time to switch tactics, and began jabbing and circling away at long range. Alli was able to keep pace with the change, still forcing the action and backing up the Puerto Rican. Late in the sixth, Alli closed the gap, and there ensued the most torrid exchange of the fight. For a full minute, the two jolted each other without letup, Cardona landing plenty of clean counters, but Alli continuing to pour it on. Neither fighter noticeably broke despite the taxing pace, with action switching briskly from inside to out and back right through the final bell. Alli won handily, though Cardona at least made him play all his cards in the doing.

Milo Savage had it 97-34, Richard F. Murry, 98-93, and Joe Pasquale, 99-91. Tony Perez refereed.

Classy Michael Carbajal, 109, Phoenix, met the perfect foil in game, stubby southpaw MIguel Banda, 109, Mexicali, in a showcase eight. Banda was determined enough to give Carbajal the chance to show everything he had, standing his ground and getting dropped in the first and seventh of an action fight. Pasquale scored 80-70, and the others 79-71.

"Hey, the little guys are just as though as the big guys," commented the winner. Rafael Ramos refereed.

Similarly, touted Vincent Phillips, 143, Las Vagas, got nearly all he wanted from tough-luck Howard Stewart, 144, Kankakee, Illinois, via Ft. Worth, Texas, and had to settle for a split decision in a punishing six. Pasquale scored it 59-55, and Murry, 58-56 for Phillips; but Savage favored the underdog, 58-57. Referee: Ramos.

Unnoticed Bennie Amparo, 125, Philadelphia, scored a mild upset with a unanimous win over amateur standout Frankie "Holy" Toledo, 125, Paterson, four rounds.Amparo was too confident and aggressive for the slick southpaw. It was an excellent contest. Referee: Perez.

Joe Wallace, 137, New York City, took the measure of unbeaten (5-0) lefty Sergio Vela, 138, Las Vegas, with a unanimous win over four rounds. The clumsy Vela had gotten the benefit of less competitive opposition out West. Referee: Ramos.

Promoter: Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.)
Matchmakers: Teddy Brenner, Ron Katz
TV: Telemundo
Ring Announcer: Oscar Rosario
(1-12-90)

ATLANTIC CITY—Resorts International—Though a bit out of the limelight, **James "Buddy" McGirt** continues to impress while establishing himself as a welterweight. The former IBF junior welterweight champion, 146, Brentwood, New York, showed consummate boxing skills in disposing of difficult **Miguel "El Zorro" Santana**, 146, San Juan, Puerto Rico, in the second of a scheduled 10-rounder. The loser seems never to have been the same after a 30-minute reign as IBF lightweight king in April 1988, just long enough for his TKO "win" over Greg Haugen to be declared a technical loss. By contrast, McGirt has never looked better.

With Santana attacking recklessly, McGirt dropped him as early as the first, when a quick left hook froze his advance long enough for a beauty of a right to set him down. The bell only prolonged the inevitable, as the Long Islander deftly sidestepped a wild swing and buried the Puerto Rican with another pituresque right just shy of the end of the second. Referee Tony Perez didn't bother with the count.

The winner had no trouble explaining the difference in the knockdowns.

"I felt that one in my spine," he said of the payoff. "Didn't get the tingle on the first knockdown. I noticed right away he was lunging. He'd go back when I threw a left hook, but come forward the rest of the time . . . Whenever I threw the jab, I could sense he would come at me."

Touted Ricardo Cepeda missed a chance to crash the big time when Myron Taylor, on the verge of a managerial change, made like Sylvester and meowed out. Instead, Cepeda, 125, the Bronx, New York, had to settle for a workout at the expense of a game but overmatched Jose Parrilla, 123, Philadelphia, in a scheduled 10. Parrilla was bleeding badly from the nose, and was taking a beating along the ropes, when referee Rudy Battle rescued him at 2:07 of the fourth.

Tom Johnson, 20-0, 128, Evansville, Indiana, via Detroit, hammered out a unanimous win over Anthony English, 126, Camden, in a rugged but undisciplined 10-rounder. Judge Frank Brunette scored 98-93, Thomas Kaczmarek, 99-92, and Vinnie Rainone, 98-92. Referee, Perez.

After using a win over Bert Gravely to propel him into a preposterous matchup against unbeaten Michael Moorer, Freddie Delgado was in line for some rebuilding. Nevertheless, Delgado, 179, Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico, via Miami, had to struggle in a wild and clumsy shootout before knocking out herky-jerk Melvin Ricks, 174, Lorain, Ohio, at 1:34 of the sixth, in a scheduled eight-rounder. Delgado made the best of an opportunity, when a tiring Ricks stepped away from an exchange with hands down, apparently thinking the stocky slugger couldn't reach him. A sweeping left hook just caught the loser's chin, freezing him in his tracks. It was followed by a hard right that knoked him out. Referee, Perez.

Vaunted Adam Garland, 161, Piscataway, overcame dangerous Brinatty Maquillon, 161, Cali, Colombia, via Corona, New York, by unanimous eight-round decision. It wasn't a pretty sight. After a cautious start, Maquillon got in gear in the third, only to be dropped by a crisp right counter. The Colombian turned conservative through the middle rounds, but a tiring Garland, left eye closing, had to limp to victory through the final two. Referee, Battle.

Promoter: Madison Square Garden Boxing
Matchmaker: Bobby Goodman
Attendance: 1,200 (estimated)
TV: MSG Cable
Timekeeper: Roosevelt Gilbert
Ring Announcer: Ed Derian
(1-26-90)

ATLANTIC CITY—Trump Plaza Hotel & Casino **Meldrick Taylor's** blitz of **Ramon Flores** left nearly everyone wondering what the point was! As the opening event to Trump's "Super Brawl" weekend extravaganza, Taylor, 142, Philadelphia, TKO'd Flores, 145, El Paso, at 2:56 of the first round of a scheduled 10-rounder. The second, and final, of Taylor's two non-title tuneups for Chavez seemed to hardly serve the purpose. Lou Duva was probably more to the point when he confessed, "Ten weeks in camp is too long. It gets monotonous, and this is the way we're breaking it up."

Certainly it did seem no more than a diversion for Taylor. Though Flores came in with a record that would indicate reasonable opposition, 22-5-1, or thereabouts, he proved to be a sitting duck that was just too hard to resist. Taylor, who's been working on increasing his punching power, did just that, when a blazing left hook sent Flores to the canvas. The discouraged Texan arose and was immediately dropped again with a less than spectacular hook that glanced off his chest. He then rose again, this time with a distracted look that caused referee Ted Pick to wave it over.

In a battle of lefties scheduled for eight, Eduardo Cruz, 145, Mexico City, a standup puncher who knows how to let his hands go, hit too hard for brave Felix Dubray, 142, a nifty boxer from Lincoln, Nebraska. Lacking the power to hold Cruz at bay, Dubray was worn down and bleeding from the nose when he was floored in the third. The fight was stopped when both his cornerman and the doctor simultaneously mounted the apron at 2:12 of the fourth. Referee, Battle.

Nick Rupa, 150, Trinidad, via Bowmanville, Ontario, had the better pair of hands in a punishing battle of attrition with Peter Manfredo, 152, Providence, to gain a lopsided unanimous six-round decision. Referee, Ted Pick.

In battle of southpaws, touted Fred Norwood, 131, St. Louis, survived a shaky first round to overwhelm game Oscar Gonzalez, 135, Shirley, New York, for a TKO at 1:55 of the fourth and final round. Gonzalez was rocked by a left cross for a standing eight in the third, and was being cleaned up when Battle came to his rescue.

Nelson Adams, 206, Fajardo, Puerto Rico, debuted with a good win over willing Mustafa Muhammad, 225, Newark, in a scheduled four. Muhammad was dropped by a right at the start, but hung tough until drilled by another right that felled him for a kayo as the bell ended the second. Referee, Pick.

Promoter: Dan Duva (Main Events/Monitor Productions)
Matchmaker: Johnny Bos
Attendance: 600 (estimated)
Judges: Rich Stange, Joe Pasquale, Phil Newman
Timekeeper: Lindsey Tucker
Ring Announcer: Mike Buffer
(1-27-90)

ATLANTIC CITY—Trump Plaza Hotel & Casino—In an ironic twist of an all-too-familiar tale of two young hopefuls trying to rebuild after being rushed to defeat in unearned title shots, **Louie Lomeli**, 141½, Jalisco, Mexico, via Melrose Park, Illinois, upset **Courtney Hooper**, 142, Detroit, by unanimous decision over 10 rounds. Could the blistering distance war, in which longshot Hooper extended Meldrick Taylor, have taken more out of the Motown junior welterweight than the swift destruction at the hands of Pernell Whitaker had depleted Lomeli? Each had one tuneup before venturing back into deep water, but Hooper, who had raised his stock against Taylor, proved a disappointment, while the written-off Lomeli was a surprise.

Thomas Kaczmarek scored 97-92, Al Devito, 98-92, and Vinnie Rainone, 99-90. Referee, Tony Orlando.

Sharmba Mitchell, 135½, Washington, D.C., continued to move, with a lopsided, unanimous verdict over gritty Bobby Brewer, 134, Aurora, Colorado, in a punishing eight. The vigorous, aggressive southpaw all but overwhelmed the slick, skinny boxer at the start, but Brewer's skills kept him in the fight, until Mitchell began to fizzle in the middle. But the prospect quickly regrouped, bloodied Brewer's mouth in the sixth, and nailed him with a left over a lazy jab to score a standing eight-count in the seventh.

Crude brawler Tim Taylor, 176, Masontown, Pennsylvania, got jobbed with a unanimous draw against slick spoiler Roosevelt Williams, 175, Brooklyn, in a hard-fought six. Although all three judges had it 57-57, they didn't agree on the specific rounds. Referee, Pick.

Leavander Johnson, 134, Atlantic City, continued to impress, outclassing willing Joe Wallace, 134, New York City, for a unanimous win in an action-packed four. Referee, Pick.

Alex Quiroga, 140, Miami, a Hector Camacho sparring partner, came on to nip lefty Tony Zayes, 141, Trenton, by unanimous decision in a four-rounder. Referee, Orlando.

Promoter: Frank Gelb Productions
Matchmaker: Frank Gelb
Attendance: 500 (estimated)

TV: USA Network
Timekeeper: Art Spell
Ring Announcer: Ed Derian
(2-1-90)

J. R. Jowett

OHIO

LORAIN—Lorain's first pro card in nearly eight years, held at the Lorain Palace Civic Center, saw **Carl Griffith**, 137, Lorain, score a sixth-round TKO over **Gary Moore**, 140½, Chicago, in a scheduled eight-rounder. Griffith, 11-1-1 (4), outboxed and outpunched Moore, 10-3 (3), who turned his back and quit at 2:36 of the sixth.

In a sloppy scheduled eight-rounder, Donnell Wingfield, 173, Cleveland, and Robert Underwood, 175, Cincinnati, slapped and clinched for nearly the entire fight. An early ending came, however, when Wingfield landed a combination to a defenseless Underwood in the final round and the referee stopped the bout. Wingfield improved to 20-1 (10), while Underwood dipped to 4-11 (2). Once a prospect, Wingfield now appears to be nothing more than an overprotected clubfighter.

Ricky Quiles, 139, Lorain, registered a third-round TKO over Gary Stallworth, 134, Cincinnati, in a scheduled six. Quiles' machine gun-like combinations were too much for Stallworth.

Joe Moore, 147, Lorain, won a unanimous six-round decision over George Taylor, 153, Cleveland, in a toe-to-toe battle.

Darin Allen, 165, Columbus, scored a unanimous six-round decision over Gino Calvillo, 164, Cleveland. Calvillo pressed the action but couldn't land against the elusive Allen.

Mark Johnson, 112, Washington, D.C., stopped debuting hometowner Ray Gonzales, 112, Lorain, in the third round of a scheduled four.

Promoter: Prime Time Fights
Matchmaker: Larry Weiser
Attendance: 600 (estimated)
(2-24-90)

William DiSanto

PENNSYLVANIA

PITTSBURGH—In the scheduled 10-round main event at the Sheraton at Staton Square, **Eddie Hall**, 160, Uniontown, knocked out **Ron Johnson**, 158, Oklahoma City, in the second round. Hall was all over Johnson from the opening bell, and a right hand-left hook put Johnson down and out face-first to the canvas midway through the second.

In the card's best action, Ricardo Bryant, 160, Pittsburgh, and Sam Gervins, 157, Columbus, waged a war over eight rounds that saw Bryant win by a split nod. This was a see-saw battle that brought the crowd to its feet.

Phil Brown, 177, Columbus, came from behind to ice Tim Taylor, 176, Uniontown, with a left hook in the eighth and final round.

Tommy Small 147, Sophia, West Virginia, knocked out Bert McDuffey, 149, Memphis, in the first round of a scheduled four.

Virgil McClendon, 135, Columbus, registered a third-round TKO over Simmie Black, 137, Memphis, in a scheduled six. Black was down once in the second and was out on his feet in the third when the bout was stopped.

Michael Garro, 138, Pittsburgh, dropped Danny Buggs, 140, Columbus, three times in round one for an automatic stoppage of a bout scheduled for four.

Mark Anthony, 275, Pittsburgh, blew out Billy White, 220, Memphis, in the first of a scheduled four-rounder.

Terell Harris, 160, Pittsburgh, pounded out a third-round TKO over Tommy Jones, 163, Memphis, in a scheduled four. Jones was down twice in the third from body shots.

Promoter: Dave Kadir
Matchmaker: J.J. Johnson
Attendance: 1,500 (estimated)
(2-21-90)

Erich Gliebe

SOUTH CAROLINA

HILTON HEAD—A night of action was in store for the SRO crowd at Hilton Head Inn, as Hammer Boxing presented a card short on rounds, but long on action. The main event featured heavyweights **Mike Cohen**, 218, Hilton Head, and **Jimmy Marble**, 223, Shelby, North Carolina, in a bruising fight, until Cohen landed one of his powerful rights to Marble's jaw and laid him out at 1:02 of the first. Cohen, 26-13, is next scheduled to meet James Tillis in Canada.

The first bout, scheduled for six rounds, lasted only one as Jesse Lanton, 160, Hilton Head, TKO'd James Barron, 170, Lincolnton, North Carolina, at 2:45 of the first. Barron, making his pro debut, came out punching, but Lanton used uppercuts and body shots to put Barron down twice. Referee Stutts waved it off at 2:45 of the opener.

Don Williams, 3-0 (2), 162, Aiken, knocked and Rodney Cannon, 162, Shelby, North Carolina, into the ropes with a devasting left hook, and the referee wisely stopped it at 2:59 of the second round, scheduled for four.

In the best fight of the night, Bobby Arthurs, 190, Aiken, and Sampson Cohen, 191, Hilton Head, battled to a draw.

In a scheduled four, George Mulinde, 176½, Uganda, now fighting out of Spartanburg, and trailhorse Randy Thomas, 168, Huntsville, Alabama, provided plenty of action. Mulinde started as the aggressor, but Thomas wore him down with vicious bodypunches, and at 1:10 of the second, Mulinde went down from a rib shot and took the 10-count on one knee.

Promoter: Hammer Boxing
Referees: Harry Hitopoulos, Josh Warren, Bryan Stutts
Judges: Ed Martella, Mike Waters
Timekeeper: Robert Olin
Ring Announcer: Ted Whitaker
Physician: Dr. Laughlin
Attendance: 400 (estimated)
(2-10-90)

Frank Whitecotton

TENNESSEE

OMNI—New Daisy Theatre—In the co-headliner, Memphian **Michael Greer**, 200, paired with **Mike Russell**, 217, Springfield, Missouri, in a scheduled 10- round heavyweight contest. Greer didn't waste any time. He came out in round one scoring with combinations to the head and body. Greer continued to do the same in rounds two and three. He loaded up with numerous head shots and dropped Russell for the 10-count at 2:46 of the round.

The other co-headliner featured Texan Jesse Benavides, 28-1, 124½, squaring off with Jose Soto, 125, Reynosa, Mexico, in a scheduled 10-round bantamweight contest. After gaining the crowd's support in rounds one and two, Benavides caught Soto with a right uppercut in round three for the count of eight. Benavides dominated Soto throughout the rest of the fight, scoring with combinations to the head and body. After the final bell, the judges had Benavides winning the contest by unanimous decision.

Ken Hulsey, 162, Lynchburg, earned a six-round unanimous decision over Gary Thomas, 168, Evansville, Indiania, in a middleweight bout.

Cruiserweight Danny Ward, 193, West Memphis, Arkansas, stopped Jackson's Roy Bedwell, 190, at 2:42 of the third round in a scheduled four-rounder.

In the opener, Terry Ray, 180, Evansville, Indiana, pounded out a six- round unanimous decision over Memphian Donald Johnson, 178, in a light heavyweight contest.

Promoters: Tom Harmon and Mid South Boxing, Inc.
Matchmakers: Peyton Sher, Red Fortner
Ring Announcer: Sam Garland
Judges: Gilbert Beam, Don Thompson, James Perkins, Haywood Watts, Jim Harbor, Alex McCollum, Mike Belmont
Referees: Jim Kidd, Eddie Freeman
Timekeeper: Rod Cardone
Physician: Dr. Jeff Hoover
Attendance: 650 (estimated)
(2-6-90)

Michael Glenn

VIRGINIA

RICHMOND—Richmond Coliseum—Local fighters went one-for-two in a pair of IBF Intercontinental title bouts promoted by the fledgling Million Dollar Boxing Club.

Super middleweight **John Jarvis**, 26-2 (21), 164½, captured the vacant 168- pound crown by clearly decisioning **Ken Shannon**, 23-6, 166, Portsmouth. Jarvis, 32, boxed smoothly throughout. Two judges carded 118-110, while another saw the fight 120-108. *The Ring* scored 119-109.

Jarvis fought a conservative, careful fight, keeping his shorter foe on the end of his long left jab and landing enough right hands to get Shannon's respect. A chopping right seemed to hurt Shannon in the sixth.

Jarvis' only defeats were knockout losses to Buster Drayton and Darnell Knox in 1985. The win earned Jarvis, originally of Newport News, a place in the IBF's top 10. He craves a fight with IBF titlist Lindell Holmes.

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KO

"Lindell Holmes has the other half of this belt," Jarvis said. "I'll beat Holmes and Frank Tate on the same night."

In the other half of the title-fight doubleheader, Joe Kelly, 15-4-1 (5), 111, Glasgow, Scotland, had too much firepower for game Richmonder Reggie Brown, 110¼, forcing referee Al Rothenberg to rescue the outclassed local at 2:20 of the eighth round, but not soon enough to prevent Kelly from being cut over his right eye early in the final stanza. Kelly, 15-4-1 (5), picked up the IBF Intercontinental flyweight title. Brown, suffering his second straight setback, slipped to 9-2 (9).

Current IBF flyweight boss Dave McCauley stopped Kelly on cuts in 1986. Kelly sparred with McCauley in preparation for the Brown fight, and he would love a formal rematch with the world titlist.

Tim Hillie, 5-0, 169, Washington, D.C., scored his second win over James "Killer" Miller, 5-2, 168½. The first came in a close bout last November. This time, Hillie's edge was clear, as he finished with a big sixth round. The judges' cards read 60-53, 60-53, and 59-55.

Rodney "Sugar" Wyatt, 147, Richmond, earned a TKO of Albert Thompson, 146, Knoxville, Tennessee, at 2:33 of the first round. Wyatt moved to 5-1, Thompson slipped to 2-2.

Anuur Green, 152, Newport News, stopped Nathan "Hard Rock" Goodwin, 154, Knoxville, with a TKO at 1:53 of the fourth round.

Richmond heavyweight Everett "Tornado" Mayo, 3-1, 227½, labored to stop Alex Stanley, 194, Baltimore, at 2:17 of the sixth round.

Melvin "Mr. Mo" Edmonds, 4-0, 191, Richmond, earned a third-round TKO over Jay Harris, 3-2, 179, Knoxville.

Joe Brown, 137, Richmond, was credited with a fifth-round TKO when Bruce Newby, 138, Knoxville, couldn't come out for the sixth round due to a cut.

Promoter: Million Dollar Boxing Club
(2-17-90)

Steve Waldman

WASHINGTON

SEATTLE—Sea-Tac Hilton—Northwest boxing returned to Seattle with a 12-round title fight for the Northwest heavyweight championship belt. **Jim Ashard**, 14-9-4, 216, Toledo, Oregon, contended against **Mark Lee**, 14-1, 236, Carson City, Nevada.

Hostilities commenced with Lee dominating the bout with blistering combinations and unrelenting pressure. Lee, who once lost a 10-round decision to former WBC champion Trevor Berbick, backed up Ashard and had him in trouble all night. Ashard gave it his best and hung in like a trooper, but this was to be Lee's night.

Judge Glen Hamada scored it 116-112; Paul Gibbs, 118-110, and Loren Marshall, 118-111.

In a scheduled eight-rounder, Walid Underwood, 144, Seattle, 2-2-4, won a unanimous decision over Jerry Ward, 146, 6-6, Reno, Nevada.

A scheduled four-rounder found Frank Cassell, 143, Kent, in a no contest engagement after receiving an unintentional head butt from Paul DeLuca, 146, Victoria, British Columbia. The ringside physician said the wound was too serious for the fight to continue. Both pugilists were making their pro debuts.

In a second scheduled four-rounder, Sean Jewell, 182, Bend, Oregon, 2-1, kayoed Antonio Ocavio, 190, Tacoma, who was making his debut. A vicious overhand right at 2:15 of the first round brought the end.

Promoter: Bob Olson
Matchmaker: Bob Olson
Referee: Jim Reilly
Attendance: 515
Gate: $7,334
Timekeeper: Jerry Vandeboe
Ringside Physician: Dr. Leslie Barnette
(2-24-90)

Bill Tuthill

MEXICO

QUERETARO—Super featherweight **Martin Soto** knocked out **Jose "Ghamaco" Cordoba** in the fourth of a scheduled 10-rounder.

In another super featherweight bout, former amateur champion Hector "Tito" Lopez, 2-0, won a unaminous eight-round decision over Franco Hernandez.
(2-2-90)

VILLAHERMOSA—**Oscar Gallegos** scored a ninth-round TKO over **Noe Gonzalez** in a super featherweight bout scheduled for 10.

In a mini flyweight contest, Jose Damian Hernandez won a unaminous 10-round decision over Javier Alonso in a good, close fight.
(2-2-90)

ACAPULCO—**Octavio "Sugar" Santos** won a 10-round decision over **Alejo "Nono" Martinez**, super flyweights.

In a battle of lightweights, Marco Antonio Ludwing decisioned Agustin Salinas.

Mini flyweight Alfredo Crucillo scored a fourth-round kayo over Rodolfe Lira.

Flyweight Ruben Alocer beat Valeriano Ojeda by decision.

Mini flyweight Bernardo Tule kayoed Richard Gallegos in three rounds.

Filemon Lozano decisioned Noberto Mejia, super bantamweights.
(2-2-90)

GUADALAJARA—In a lightweight battle, **Javier Sanchez** won a 10-round decision over **Mario Estrada**.

"Chiquillin" Guerrero scored a fourth-round knockout over Jorge "Pantera" Loya in a super bantamweight fight scheduled for 10.
(2-2-90)

CUAUTLA—**Jesus Capistran** scored a seventh-round TKO over **Artemio "Elvis" Manzano** in a super featherweight bout scheduled for 10.

Juventino Bonilla drew with Jorge "Liebre" Sanchez in a 10-round super featherweight battle.
(2-3-90)

MEXICO CITY—Bantamweight **Victor Manuel Rabanales** won a unamimous 10-round decision over **Julio Pliego**.

Bernardo Alanis scored a third-round TKO over Jaime Martinez in a scheduled 10-round suuper welterweight bout.

Mario Garcia scored a TKO at 2:30 of the third over Benjamin "Timbiriche" Aragon; scheduled for eight rounds, bantamweights.
(2-3-90)

GUADALAJARA—**Gregorio "Goyo" Vargas Jr.** kayoed **Martin "Freddy" Garcia** with a solid right to the chin in the eighth of a scheduled 10-round featherweight bout.
(2-9-90)

ACAPULCO—**Saul Montana** knocked out **Jorge Vilchis** in the fourth round of a scheduled 10-round heavyweight fight. Vilchis showed nothing, as he tried to make a comeback after a two-year layoff.
(2-9-90)

SAN LUIS POTOSI—**Armando "Tontin" Velasco** scored a fifth-round TKO over **Evaristo "Alacran" Morales** of a flyweight bout scheduled for 10 rounds.

Flyweight Ramon "Toluquito" Lopez scored a ninth-round TKO over Ivan Martinez in a scheduled 10-rounder.
(2-9-90)

RIO BRAVO—**Betillo Cantu** floored **Antonio "Kid" Vega** three times before knocking him out in the third round of a scheduled 10-rounder.

Bantamweight Pepillo Morales won a technical decision over Cesa Sandino, 10.

Juan Pablo Salazar stopped Carlos Suarez in the third of a scheduled 10-round flyweight bout.
(2-9-90)

CANCUN—**Macario Santos** upset Mexican mini flyweight champion **Santiago Mendez** via unanamious decision in a 10-round non-title fight. Santos cut the champion, knocked him down, and dominated the entire fight.

Juan Diego Arjona won a controversial 10-round TKO over Jaime "Cuervito" Rojas in a super flyweight bout.
(2-10-90)

MINATITLAN—**Fernando Beltran** stopped **Juanito Velasco** in the fifth round of a scheduled 10-round featherweight bout.

Roberto Chavez, younger brother of Julio Cesar Chavez, kayoed Betillo Ochoa in the third round of their super flyweight bout.

Julio Caesar Chavez sparred eight exhibition rounds, three each with Juan Antonio Lopez and Trinidad Damasco, and two in fun with heavyweight Mario Otanez.

Attendance: 5,000 (estimated)
(2-10-90)

MEXICO CITY—**Javier "Olympico" Juarez** TKO'd **Jose Luis "Gringa" Zepeda** at 2:55 of the fifth round in a scheduled 10-round mini flyweight bout at the Coliseo. Zepeda, 20-8-1, sustained two cuts above his left eyebrow early in the fight. Juarez, who was also cut by a clash of heads in round three, improved to 14-4.

Miguel Angel Gonzalez won a unanimous 10-round decision over Francisco Martinez Laguna, super featherweights. Gonzalez, a 1988 Olympian, survived a second-round knockdown to improve to 9-0.
(2-10-90)

REYNOSA—**Raymundo "Battling" Torres Jr.** regained the Mexican super welterweight title by decisioning **Alberto Lopez** over 12 rounds. Torres lost the title to Lopez last November.
(2-16-90)

ACAPULCO—Former WBC flyweight king **Gabriel Bernal** TKO'd **Francisco "Buzo" Gonzalez** in the fifth round of a 10-round super flyweight contest. It was Bernal's third straight win after a two-year absence.

Lightweight Fidel "Negro" Avendano kayoed Clemente Mendoza in nine rounds.

Ismael Benitez won by disqualification over Alejandro Sanabria in a 10-round flyweight bout.
(2-16-90)

VILLAHERMOSA—**Fernando "Candelita" Varguez** decisioned **Gregorio "Tucita" Campos** in a 10-round super flyweight fight. Appreciative fans responded to the action fight by throwing coins in the ring.

In another super flyweight matchup, Noe Santillana knocked out Alcibiades Gallegos in round eight of a scheduled 10-rounder.
(2-16-90)

SALAMANCA—**Rogelio "Exterminator" Montenegro** dropped **Alex Gomez** in the third and fourth rounds and registered a sixth-round TKO. The lightweight showdown was scheduled for 10.

Middleweight Hector "Apache" Zaragoza took a 10-round decision over Luciano "Lucifer" Fernandez.
(2-16-90)

HUATABAMPO—**Jose "Gallito" Quirino** decisioned **Pablo "Mulato" Valenzuela** in a 10-round super flyweight matchup.

Stanley Olmos knocked out Jose Lopez in the second round of a scheduled 10.
(2-16-90)

HERMOSILLO—**Cuauhtemoe "Famosito" Gomez** knocked out **Manuel "Rana" Lopez** in the first round of a scheduled 10.
(2-16-90)

MEXICO CITY—**Ramon Marchena** won a technical split decision over former WBC super featherweight champion **Rolando Navarette** after the scheduled 12- rounder was stopped in the fifth because of an accidental clash of heads. Marchena was bleeding from a cut on his left eyelid. The win gave Marchena, 41-8-2 (32), the vacant WBC International lightweight title. Navarette fell to 56-12-3 (35).

Miguel Angel Dominguez, 34-7-2 (20), scored a unanimous 10-round decision over Julian "Pato" Benitez, 29-6-1 (24), welterweights. Dominguez was dropped in the ninth.

Antonio "Rayo" Garcia TKO'd Felipe "Matador" Fuentes in the third of a scheduled 10-rounder, super lightweights.

Francisco "Surfing" Chavez squeaked by Santiago Caballero with a 10-round split decision, bantamweights.

Super lightweight Humberto "Gitano" Rodriguez stopped Miguel "Jarocho" Gonzalez in the fifth round of a scheduled 10. Rodriguez, a 1988 Olympian, improved to 11-0 (11).

Attendance: 4,000 (estimated)
(2-17-90)

VERACRUZ—**Trinidad Damasco** knocked out **Fernando "Chamaco" Ochoa** in the second round, lightweights.

Conny Lopez knocked out Martin Lopez in the first round, lightweights.

WBC super lightweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez boxed 11 exhibition rounds, with Javier Altamirano, Fernando Beltran, Juan Antonio Lopez, and heavyweight Mario Otanez.

Attendance: 2,000 (estimated)
(2-17-90)

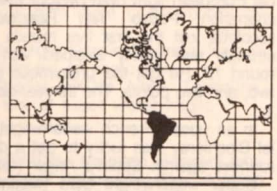
SAN LUIS RIO COLORADO—**Felipe de Jesus** stopped **Leonardo "Pinchon" Valdez** in the third round of a 10-round super featherweight match.

(2-17-90)

ACAPULCO—**Carlos Monroy** rallied for a 10th-round TKO over **Rey Cisneros** in a super bantamweight bout.
(2-23-90)

REYNOSA—**Betillo Cantu** knocked out **Ceferino "Frijol" Rubio** in the third round of a 10-round flyweight fight.
Enrique "Bestia" Noriega halted Pedro Rodriguez in seven rounds, schedlued for 10, middleweights.
(2-23-90)

MEXICO CITY—Flyweight **Willy Salazar** scored a unanimous 10-round decision over **Jacinto Escalante**. Salazar upped to 44-9-1 (32). Escalante dipped to 15-6.
Omar Flores earned a 10-round unanimous decision over Roberto Ponce, lightweights. Ponce was down from a straight right in the fifth.
Jose "Aranda" Mendez TKO'd Gerardo Sanchez in the seventh of a scheduled lightweight 10-rounder.
(2-24-90)



SOUTH AMERICA

ARGENTINA

BUENOS AIRES—Argentine Boxing Federation Stadium—**Pedro Armando Gutierrez**, 135, former Argentine junior lightweight champion, scored a unanimous—and brilliant—10-round victory over **Omar Alegre**, 135½.
Ismael Chavez, 133¼, decisioned Rolando Soria, 136, over eight rounds.
(1-6-90)

MONTE HERMOSO—**Ruben Dario Cabral**, 159, keeps climbing in popularity, but he had problems as he battled to a draw with veteran **Eduardo Contreras**, 159½. Cabral is the younger brother of Alfredo Horacio Cabral, a prospect who died in a car accident in 1978.
(1-6-90)

MAR DEL PLATA—**Jose Margarino**, 140, kayoed **Dante Reyna**, 138, in three rounds at Piso de los Deportes.
Italo Mesa, 147, kayoed Hector Marino, 150, in seven rounds.
Promoter: Roberto Barrionuevo
Attendance: 1,257
(1-11-90)

BUENOS AIRES—Argentine Boxing Federation Stadium—**Sergio Martinez**, 128, defeated **Narcelo Luna**, 127, by technical decision in six rounds.
Jose Soto, 119, kayoed Sandro Oviedo, 118½, in four rounds.
(1-13-90)

MAR DEL PLATA—Former Argentine super bantamweight champion and world title contender **Pedro Decima**, 24-2, 124, rated second by the WBC, kayoed **Hugo Villarruel**, 124, in the sixth round at Piso de los Deportes. At 24, Decima, managed by Tito Lectoure, is waiting for a world title shot.
(1-19-90)

MONTE CLAVERO, CORDOBA—Former Argentine super bantamweight champion **Carlos Laciar**, 119, won the vacant Province 122-pound belt with a six-round kayo of **Sergio Gomez**, 119.
(1-19-90)

MONTE HERMOSO, BUENOS AIRES—International WBC middleweight champion **Hugo Corti**, 158, stopped **Juan Quevedo**, 159½, in the fifth round.
Bruno Godoy, 159, kayoed **Carlos Velazquez**, 150, in the first round.
(1-20-90)

MAR DEL PLATA—Former Argentine super middleweight champion **Miguel Angel Maldona**, 170,

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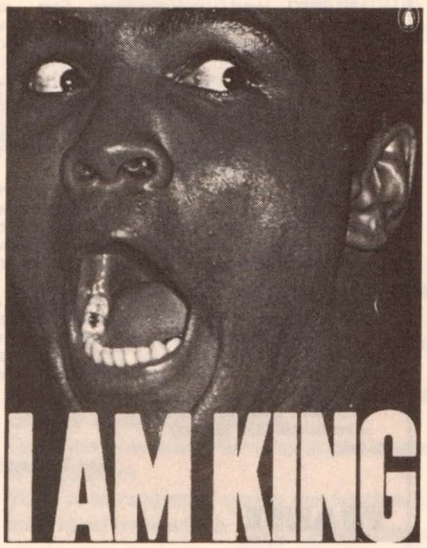

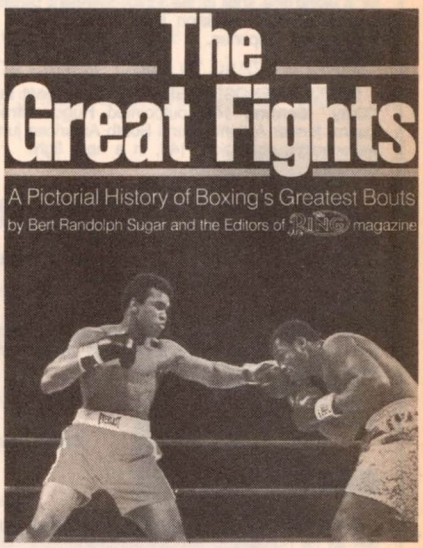

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won a unanimous 10-round decision over former Argentine and South American champion **Jorge Salgado**, 174, at Piso de los Deportes.
Promoter: Robert Barrionuevo
Attendance: 1,584
(1-26-90)

BUENOS AIRES—ABF Stadium—**Pedro Armando Gutierrez**, 133, scored an easy 10- round victory over **Juan Conteras**, 132.
Carlos Farina, 110, kayoed Marcelo Esponda, 112½, in four rounds.
(1-27-90)

BUENOS AIRES—AFB Stadium—**Sergio Atilio Martinez**, 16-3-5, the number two Argentine featherweight, won a 10-round decision over **Juan Antonio Morinigo**.
(2-3-90)

MAR DEL PLATA—**Hector Luis Patri**, waiting for a world title shot in the junior flyweight division, won a 10-round decision over **Ramon Ojeda** at Piso de los Deportes.
(2-3-90)

PINTO, BUENOS AIRES—Young prospect **Luis "Cuty" Barrera**, 148, outpointed **Hugo Alfredo Luero**, former Argentine and South American junior welterweight champion, 148, in a hard fight.
(2-3-90)

VIEDMA—South American bantamweight champion **Lucio "Machine Gun" Lopez** defeated **Fidel Avila** via unanimous 10-round decision.
Lightweight Alberto Jaime defeated localite Clisolino Ovalle via 10-round decision.
(2-12-90)

BUENOS AIRES—ABF Stadium—**Carlos Martinet**, 127, won a unamimous 10-round decision over **Raul Gomez**, 127.
Referee: Oscar Coronel
Attendance: 954
(2-17-90)

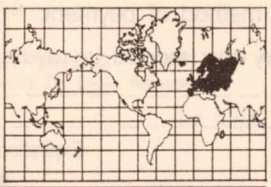
Carlos Irusta

COLOMBIA

CARTAGENA—**William Herrera** scored a good win as he outpointed **Miguel Maturana** in a battle of Colombian featherweights.
Mini flyweight Durvey Osorio kayoed Andres Cassiani in the second round.
Milton Jurado knocked out Johnny Negrete in the third round, flyweights.
(1-5-90)

BARRANQUILA— Cuadrilatero Gym—**Harold Maestre**, Cartagena, TKO'd **Simon Morales** in the third round of a scheduled six. Morales, who represented Colombia in the 1988 Olympics, fell to 8-1 (6).
Colombian junior welterweight champion Eder Gonzalez knocked out Ruben Dario Parra in the second round of a non-title bout.
Alvaro Mercado, Barranquilla, TKO'd Tobias Caraballo, Cartagena, in four rounds, super flyweights.
At junior welterweight, Ignacio Bernal, Villavicencio, topped Freddy Canate, Barranquilla, in the first round with a right to the jaw.
Super bantamweight Atenor Solar defeated Jaime Padilla in the sixth and final round.
(2-2-90)

Luis A. Gonzalez V.



EUROPE

BELGIUM

WAREGEM—African-born **Samuel M'Bendjob**, France, dropped Belgian **Johan Thieghem** with a big right in the second round of a heavyweight fight and won by knockout. The winner is 3-0; Thieghem is 4-1 (3).

Former Olympian Franco Wanyama, Uganda, stopped Abner Blacktoct, England, in round four of a cruiserweight bout for his first win as a pro. He fought a draw against Holland's John Held in his first fight.
(1-12-90)

GENT—**Freddy Demulenaere** won the Belgian super welterweight title, outclassing **Fabien Capelle** over 10 rounds. Demulenaere is only a welterweight, but took the fight to keep alive his hopes of a fight for the European title.
In an upset, Andre Hoeffler won on points in a six-rounder against highly regarded Frankie DeWinter, super featherweights.
(1-27-90)

Kurt Kristiansen

FINLAND

HELSINKI—Hotel Intercontinental—Fast and flashy **Darrin Morris**, Detroit, Michigan, took a well-deserved, albeit majority, decision over hard-punching hometowner **Hannu Vuorinen** in an exciting eight-rounder. This great fight was marred by bad scoring, as judge Esa Lehtosaari scored 80-78 for Morris. Incredibly, he marked six rounds out of eight even. Judges Pentti Rautiainen and Johannes Salminen weren't much better, scoring 79-77 for Morris and 79-78 for Vuorinen, respectively.
Southpaw Joni Nyman, Jarvenpaa, had to rise from canvas in the first round, and suffered a two-inch cut on his right eyebrow in the seventh, but unanimously outpointed stocky Puerto Rican David Torres in a welterweight eight-rounder. Scores were 79-77, 79-76, and 79-76.
Light welterweight Jan Nyholm, Helsinki, had an easier time as he dominated another Puerto Rican, Miguel Falero, from opening bell until the referee intervened at 40 seconds of the sixth round. There was no protest by Falero's corner, although he had not been down.
Promoter: Simo Karkkainen
Attendance: 350 (sellout)
(2-5-90)

Petri Paimander

FRANCE

LEON—Former French welterweight champion **Alain Cuvillier** blew a chance to fight for the European super welterweight title when he was kayoed in round four by Zaire-born **Jean Pierre Iniama**. Cuvillier won the first three rounds but was floored in round four by a right to the jaw. He had no chance of beating the count.
Andre Oberlin outscored Mustapha Dundar in a six-rounder at middleweight.
Welterweight Ahmed Kelfaoui stopped Jean Cornu in the second round.
(1-13-90)

SAINT-MAUR—Former amateur star **Eric Murin** returned to action after six months and won every round in outpointing **Didier Schaffer** in a four-rounder at featherweight.
Super welterweight Michel Coma, 7-0, won on points in six rounds over Pascal Marais.
Welterweight William Pronzola stopped Xavier Delafontaine on a cut in round four.
(1-13-90)

CARVIN—**Mohamed Zaoui** proved he can hit when he kayoed **Oliver Mekamyou** with a single right in round four of a light heavyweight main event.
Newcomer Hamid Hadi was far too good for Gino Delong and won on points over six rounds, middleweights.
(1-13-90)

REIMS—European super featherweight champion **Daniel Londas** returned after six months of inactivity due to problems establishing an official contender. Londas returned to outscore Belgium's **Claudie Biccai** over eight rounds in a non-title fight.
Londas, 49-7-1, is 35 years old. He won the EBU crown last June, stopping Denmark's Racheed Lawal in an upset.
(1-l6-90)

NIMES—Undefeated super featherweight prospect **Pierre Lorcy**, 20-0 (18), stopped **Vincent Mastrorillo** in round four in the quarterfinal of the yearly tournament for the national title. Mastrorillo is 15-2.
(1-20-90)

MONTARGIS—Hometowner **Guy Vaste** reached the semifinal in the national welterweight tournament when he stopped veteran **Nordine Dahmani** in the second round.
Featherweight Arlindo De Abreau stopped Djamil Ayed in round four.
(1-20-90)

SAINT-BRIEUCS—European cruiserweight champion **Anaclet Wamba** won every round in a non-title 10-rounder against Holland's **John Held**. Wamba is looking for a world title fight.
(1-20-90)

CALAIS—This card featured wins for the Jacob brothers in their native town in Northern France. Featherweight **Herve Jacob** beat **Boualem Belkif**, who was disqualified in round six for holding.
Super bantamweight **Thierry Jacob** outclassed **Kamel Djadda** over eight rounds. Herve is the official contender for the European title, while Thierry hopes to get a second fight for the IBF world title.
(1-20-90)

PERPIGNAN—**Eric Nicoletta** barely hung on to his European light heavyweight title, beating former champion **Pedro Van Raamsdonk**, Holland. Nicoletta lost the first five rounds but came back strongly and nearly stopped Van Raamsdonk in round 12. He got the unanimous decision by one, two, and two points. The 29-year-old Nicoletta is 11-1.
In an upset, French welterweight champion Daniel Bicchieray was lucky to get a draw in an eight-rounder against Spain's Angel Hernandez.
Super welterweight Said Skouma returned and stopped William Clayton, United States, in round two.
Middleweight champion Frederic Deillier had no problems in stopping constant loser Maurice Bufi, Belgium, in the second round.
Olympic silver medalist Laurent Boudouani, fighting as a super welterweight, is 6-0 (6) after stopping Rafael Fuentes, Spain, in the second round.
(1-26-90)

STRASBOURG—**Mike Quattara** slimmed down from light heavyweight to super welterweight and reached the semifinal in the national tournament by stopping **Maio Lavouiray** in round six. Lavouiray was floored twice.
Super lightweight Chris Guilmain won a six-rounder against William Droux.
Super welterweight Dominique Faliva outpointed Daniel Guerrini over six rounds.
(1-26-90)

NORGENT-SUR-MARNE—European super welterweight champion **Gilbert Dele** outpointed **Lorenzo Garcia**, Argentina, without losing a round in this 10-rounder. Dele couldn't floor Garcia, who gave former world champion Rene Jacquot a much closer fight in December.
In another super welterweight fight, Algerian Iklef Hadjalla was floored in the seoncd round by Steve Frank, United States, but fought back and kayoed Frank in round three.
Super lightweight Madjib Madjoub, a former French champion, was lucky to get a draw in an eight-rounder against Rawle Frank, United States.
Lightweight Christian Merle improved to 16-0 by outclassing late substitute Jean Gomis over six rounds.
In a quarterfinal for the national title, middleweight Akim Zeroual won on points in eight rounds against Antonio Alcantara.
In a second quarterfinal, featherweight Mehdi Labdouni upset Raymond Armand by eight-round decision.
(1-29-90)

ITALY

RAVENNA—**Laviano Polinori** retained the Italian middleweight title when his fight against undefeated **Antonio Camerani** was stopped after 75 seconds of round five because Camerani was cut on the eye. It had been a good and close fight, but Camerani was in trouble against the ropes when the fight was stopped. Polinori is 15-2; Camerani is 12-1.
(1-3-90)

MARSALA—**Alessandro Duran**, son of former European king Carlos Duran, retained the Italian welterweight title by outpointing **Antonino Marino** over 12 rounds. There was all kinds of controversy. Duran was badly cut in round six, but three times his father prevented the doctor from examining the

cut and nearly got in a fight with the doctor. Duran is 24-1; Marino lost for the first time and fell to 11-1.

Benito Guida beat Giuseppe Cali in a six-rounder at super welterweight.

Welterweight Marco Cipollino outpointed Libema Nzua, Zaire, over six rounds.
(1-13-90)

CAMPOBELLO—In a dramatic fight, former world champion **Sumbu Kalambay**, a Zaire-born Italian, won the European middleweight title, knocking out fellow countryman **Francesco Dell'Aquila** in round nine with a left to the jaw and a right to the body. Kalambay was floored in the first round and took a standing count in the second. He fought back strongly with attacks to the body and was ahead on all scorecards when he finished his opponent. Kalambay hopes to get a fight for a world title in a few months.

Super lightweight Guillermo Mosquera, Venezuela, kayoed Garrett Barron, England, in round three, leaving the British fighter on the floor for minutes.

Italian featherweight Nicola Cara won an eight-rounder against Umba Sengi, Zaire.

Super bantamweight Freddy Cruz, Dominican Republic, easily beat Belgian Francesco Garcia in a fight which was cut from eight to six rounds by television.

American middleweight Darwin Richards kayoed Paul Germinos, Belgium, in round four.

Massimiliano Concini TKO'd Nabil Tennoune, France, in round two at super welterweight.
(1-24-90)

PONT SAINT MARTIN—**Maurizio Ronzoni** won the vacant Italian super lightweight title, stopping **Gianfranco Bronco** in round four after flooring him twice.

In an upset, Zaire-born cruiserweight Kolombo Bolemi, 1-4, won a six-rounder against Mohammed Zaoui, 7-1, France.
(1-27-90)

MILAN—**Biagio Chianese**, 286, remained undefeated when he stopped **Neil Malpass**, England, in round two, flooring him for the second time.

European flyweight contender Salvatore Fanni, 14-0, was taken the distance for the fourth time in 14 fights when he outpointed John Vasquez, Texas, over eight rounds.

Former Olympian Vincenzo Nardiello, 7-0, stopped England's Frank Moro in a six-round middleweight fight.

Super middleweight Calogero Serio stopped American Arvin Campbell in the second round.

Super welterweight prospect Silvio Branco won on point against Libema Nzua, Zaire, but was given a tough test.
(1-29-90)

SOVIET UNION

MOSCOW—Olympic champion **Giovanni Parisi**, 11-0 (9), Italy, floored and cut **Roberto Rubaldino**, Mexico, in the last seconds of the first round, forcing the referee to stop the fight.

Nineteen-year-old heavyweight Massimo Magliaccio, 5-0 (5), Italy, kayoed Jim Baker, United States, in the first round.

The 3,000 spectators saw the first pro fight ever between two Russians when Sergie Buskanow fought to a draw with Sergei Artemeiv in a four-rounder at super featherweight.

Cruiserweight Sergei Matchanow, a former five-time national amateur champion, stopped Belgian Albert Toma in the first round.

Igor Lukstin kayoed Lupe Guerra, United States, in 75 seconds.
(1-6-90)

Kurt Kristiansen

UNITED KINGDOM

BIRMINGHAM—Brierley Hill Civic Hall—**Tony Baker**, 155, New Cross, stopped localite **Gary Sommerville**, 151, 102 seconds into the first of a scheduled eight-rounder. Sommerville, who was making a comeback, was under heavy pressure from the outset. A solid right dropped him for a count of six, and about half-minute later, referee Paul Thomas made his timely intervention.

Huddersfield's Muhammad Shaffique, 131½, outscored Newcastle's Frankie Foster, 130½, over six thrilling two-minute rounds. Referee Mike Donovan had it 59½-58½ for the winner.

Birmingham's Malcolm Melvin, 140, edged out Scunthorpe's Trevor Meikle, 144, over six twos. Referee Paul Thomas' scorecard read 59-58½.

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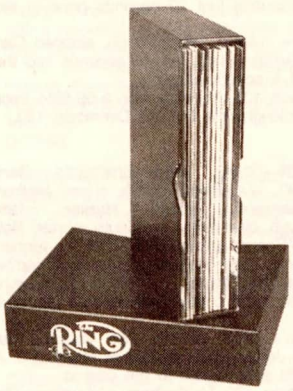

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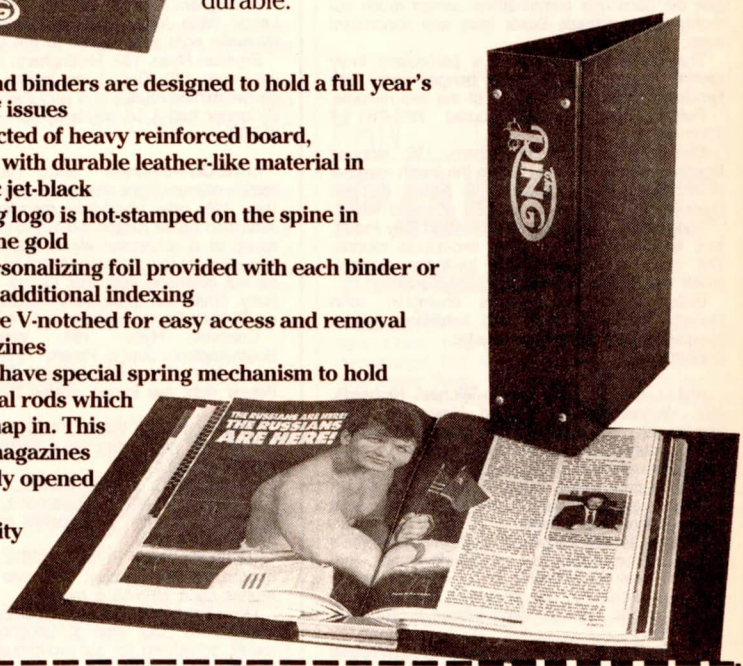

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SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Meikle pushed Melvin all the way to a photo-finish.

Wayne Windle, 134½, Sheffield, put in a masterful performance against Belfast's Mike Close, 134. The referee scored 59½-57½ for Windle after six two-minute rounds.

Neil Leitch, 130, Scunthorpe, showed vast experience in outpointing Chesterfield's Lee Fox, 129½, in this six-round match. Referee Donovan awarded the fight to Leitch by 59½-58.

Another local, Andrea Wharton, 154, brought the show to a grandstand finish with a fourth-round stoppage of Bullit Andrews, 156, also Birmingham. A big right was the sign-off punch, and it prompted referee Paul Thomas to intervene at 1:59 of the round.
(2-5-90)

BRADFORD—Norfolk Gardens—The main event proved tremendously exciting when two evenly-matched opponents, **Jimmy Thornton** and **Tony Baker**, produced eight two-minute rounds of all-out action. Thornton emerged victorious via close points decision. Baker, 150, started off well and forced the action with his constantly aggressive style. Thornton's nose was severely bloodied following the opening round.

However, as the rounds progressed, Thornton, 149, who possessed superior skills, began to dictate the pace. His combinations carried much authority, and he made Baker miss with nonchalant ease.

The combatants produced a particularly lively seventh round, in which they banged away with two-fisted onslaughts for most of the two minutes.

Referee Paul Thomas scored 79½-78 for Thornton.

Chesterfield's Andy Rowbotham, 136, stopped Bradford's Craig Garbutt, 136, in the fourth round of a scheduled six. Straight right hands dropped Garbutt for the full count at 1:04 of round four.

Tony Smith, 118, Burnley, outpointed Billy Proud, 118, Middlesborough, over six two-minute rounds. The crowd appreciated this toe-to-toe slugfest, which the referee scored 59-58 for Burnley.

British super featherweight champion John Doherty fought a three-round exhibition against Newcastle lightweight Paul Charter.
(1-29-90)

HULL—Grange Park Hotel—**Michael Richards**, 227, Wolverhampton, stopped Newbury's **Sean Hunter**, 226, in the second of a scheduled six two-minute rounder. For Richards, it proved to be a very successful pro debut. A series of right hands, all finding their target, forced referee Mickey Vann to step in and halt the bout to save Hunter from taking further punishment.

Graham Burton, Sheffield, outpointed Alfreton's Darren McKenna over four two-minute rounds. Burton, 159, was all-too-elusive for his easy-to-frustrate opponent. McKenna, 168, showed a distinct lack of fire and ideas. Referee Vann tabbed it 39½-38½ for Burton.

Jimmy Owens, 131½, making his professional debut, outpointed Greg Egbunive, 130, in a contest fought over six two-minute rounds at super featherweight. The referee scored 59½-58 for the Liverpudlian.
(1-29-90)

LONDON—Battersea Town Hall—**Del Bryan**, 152, Nottingham, a late substitute for Trevor Smith, won a hard-fought points decision over Brighton's **Simon Eubank**, 152½, over six three-minute rounds. Bryan enjoyed a significant height and reach advantage, and he exploited it to the full. The referee scored 60-57 for the winner.

Paddington's Serg Fame, 173½, stopped Johnny Graham, 174, also Paddington, with just two seconds remaining in the first round. The fight was for the Southern Area light heavyweight title, and it was a contest which was totally dominated by Fame, who felled Graham twice before referee Dave Parris halted proceedings.

Lester Jacobs, 165½, Peckam, outpointed Paddington's Dave Brown, 166, over six two-minute rounds. The referee scored 59½-58½ for the winner.

Ealing's Max Wallace, 159, stopped Swindon's Nick Gyaamie, 159, after 52 seconds of the fourth round when the referee, Marcus McDonnell, stopped the action.

Seamus O'Sullivan, 143½, drew with Eamon Payne, 142, over four rounds. The referee awarded 59 points to each boxer.

Carlos Chase, Bushey, 141, stopped Alfreton's Barry North, 141, 55 seconds into the second round. The referee stopped the fight to save North from unnecessary punishment.
(1-30-90)

LONDON—National Sporting Club Cafe Royal—**Steve Osborne**, 184, Nottingham, scored a points victory over eight two-minute rounds against Norwich's **Dave Lawrence**, 182. In what proved to be more of a maul than a brawl, Osborne got referee Tony Walker's nod by one point, 79-78.

At super welterweight, Fulham's Carlton Myers, 154¾, knocked out Benji Good, Brockley, 153, before the clang of the opening bell had stopped; well, almost! Referee Reg Thompson counted out the prostrate Good with just 19 seconds gone in the first stanza.

Dave Pierre, 143½, Peterborough, stopped Cardiff's Dave Griffiths, 143, just 48 seconds into the last round of a scheduled six.

Wayne Goult, 135, Norwich, won a 59-58½ decision over Wokingham's Richard Dimmock, 133.
(2-5-90)

LEICESTER—Grand Hotel—Sheffield's **Gary Maxwell**, 130, outpointed Welsh super featherweight champion **James Hunter**, 126, Middlesborough, over eight two-minute rounds. Referee Terry O'Connor scored 78½-77 for the winner.

Jamie Morris, 129, Nuneaton, scored a narrow decision over Lee Ahmed, 135, Birmingham, in a six two-minute round contest. The referee tabbed it 58½-58.

Nottingham's Chris Walker, 164, knocked out Leeds' Willie James, 166, at 2:00 of round one. A dynamite right sent James to the canvas.

Brendan Ryan, 139, Nottingham, and veteran Oliver Henry, 140, Kings Lynn, battled to a draw over six two-minute rounds in a very lively affair. Referee O'Connor had it 58 points apiece.
(2-5-90)

LONDON—Elephant and Castle—Commonwealth cruiserweight champion **Derek Angol**, 18-0 (14), 195, was absolutely merciless in stopping American **Eddie Smith**, 8-3-1, 195½, in the second round of a scheduled eight. After pummeling his opponent for four minutes, Angol let loose a picture-perfect overhand right that turned Smith's legs to putty. Smith was in no state to continue, and referee Richard Davies stopped it 1:14 into round two.

Cordwell Hytto, 184, Walsall, stopped Southampton's Jimmy Peters, 181½, after 1:07 of round four of a scheduled six. A nasty cut over Peters' right eye forced referee Davies to halt the contest.

Brighton's Leigh Wicks, 149½, took a 79-78 verdict against Wakefield's Ernie Noble, 150, on referee McDonnell's card.

Bermondsey's Darren Burford, 157½, stopped Southampton's Martin Rosamond, 154, after 42 seconds of the fifth in a contest scheduled for six two-minute rounds.

Hornsey's Jason Primera, 128½, outpointed Birmingham's Phil Lashley, 133, over six two-minute rounds by a 59½-58½ margin.

Dean Lake, 166, Herne Bay, stopped Yarmouth's Marty Duke, 163, after 53 seconds of the fourth round; scheduled for six two-minute rounds. Duke retired with a cut eyelid.
(2-8-90)

MANCHESTER—The 400 Club—**Sugar Gibilru**, 134, Liverpool, secured the Central Area lightweight title with a close decision over Hull's Tony Foster in an absolutely thrilling contest. Foster, 133, a southpaw, proved to be the stylist, while Gibilru was the puncher. The referee obviously thought that the Liverpudlian had the better work-rate. Gibilru was rewarded with a 98-97½ points decision.

Manchester featherweight Noel Carroll, 127¼, outpointed Dave Buxton, 124½, Redcar. The scoring was 59½-58.

Spencer Alton, 156, Derby, scored a 59½-58 points verdict over Darren Pilling, 158, Burnley.
(1-30-90)

OLDHAM—Sports Centre—**Joey Jacobs**, 129½, Manchester, became the new British super featherweight champion when he dethroned Bradford's **John Doherty**, 129, over 12 pulsating rounds.

Having lost his previous outing, Jacobs was not predicted to beat Doherty. The contest fitted the classic boxer vs. puncher mold, with Jacobs the slugger and Doherty the stylist.

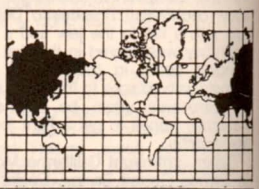
Both fighters, despite blood flowing from facial wounds, fought at a torrid pace, and referee Billy Rafferty had just one point separating them. He scored 118-117 in Jacobs' favor.

The chief supporting bout saw Manchester's Ossie Maddix, 146, win the Central Area welterweight title when he comfortably outpointed Ray Taylor, 147, Great Harwood, by a 98½-97 margin. Referee, Brian Hogg.

Michael Murray, 224, Manchester, stopped Birmingham's Al Malcolm, 229, at 37 seconds of round five in a scheduled eight-round heavyweight contest.

Manchester's Steve Foster, 164½, stopped Sheffield's Sean O'Phoenix, 163½, in the fourth round of a scheduled six. The end came 1:59 into the round.

Manchester's Tony Connellan, 146, outpointed Yeovil's Julian Eavis, 147, by a 79-77½ margin on referee Phil Cowsil's scorecard.
(2-6-90)



THE ORIENT

INDONESIA

MALANG—**Kid Samora** wrested the Indonesian junior bantamweight title by knocking out defending titlist **Aloyclus Cry** in the ninth session of a scheduled 12.

John Ireng, the IBC's number two mini flyweight, amazed the crowd with a first-round demolition of Wasisno in a scheduled 10-rounder.

Hudi took a unanimous decision over Ponidi in a junior flyweight 10-rounder.

Maryanus defeated Mat Yani by unanimous decision in a junior bantam 10.

Goffur was a points winner over Sambung in a featherweight 10.

Jack Papety scored an impressive knockout over Sanjaya in the fourth round of a junior welterweight 10-rounder.
(12-16-89)

JAPAN

KITAKYUSHU—Japanese underdog **Tatsuya Sugi**, 114½, scored an upset split but popular decision over sluggish Filipino **Rolando Bohol**, 114¾, to win the OPBF junior bantamweight title over 12 rounds. Scoring: Referee Sarasas (Thailand), 117-115, Sugi Kuwata (Japan), 118-115, both for Sugi, and Canayan (Philippines), 117-115, Bohol.

In the second half, the challenger scored well with persistent body shots against the fading champion. Bohol, the former IBF flyweight titlist, is 31-5-3 (6). Sugi is 11-7-4 (8).
(12-17-89)

ICHINOSEKI—**Yosuke Matsuoka**, 111¾, seized the vacant Japanese flyweight title via an upset unanimous decision over **Osamu Sasaki**, the top contender, 111¼, in 10 rounds. Sasaki was outboxed and outpunched by the faster and taller boxer. Scoring: Referee Tezaki 98-97, judge Abe 98-96, and judge Asao 98-96, all for Matsuoka. The new champion is 18-5-2 (6). Sasaki, a notorious slow starter, fell to 15-3 (9).
(12-16-89)

TOKYO—**Seiji Asakawa**, Japan's featherweight champion, 125¾, retained the national crown for the third time by beating former junior lightweight titlist **Tiger Michigami**, 127, over 10 furious rounds. Asakawa endured Michigami's roundhouse blows and dominated more rounds with his faster punches. Scoring: 98-94, 98-95, and 98-96, all for Asakawa. The champion is 14-1-1 (10), while Michigami, a very short infighter, dropped to 21-10-1 (16).
(1-18-90)

TOKYO—**Ryutaro Ueda**, the WBA's number four featherweight, 125¼, outpunched Korean **Sung Hwan Moon**, 128, winning a unanimous decision (98-95 twice, and 100-97) over 10 rounds. There were no knockdowns, but the crowd appreciated Ueda's progress. He is 14-3-1 (9). Moon is 3-3.
(1-19-90)

TOKYO—**Iwao Otomo**, the OPBF lightweight champ and the WBC's number nine contender, 135, endured the opening attacks of Thai challenger **Thongberm Vongvianyai**, 134½, and retaliated with roundhouse rallies, stopping his foe at 55 seconds of the ninth round in a scheduled 12. Otomo,

who didn't mind absorbing the Thai's punches to land shots of his own, had a narrow escapes in early rounds, but the Thai exhausted himself from the fast pace. Otomo is 21-3-3 (19). Vongvianyai fell to 35-11 (20). It was a hard-fought bout, but not a technical one.
(1-22-90)

TOKYO—American military worker **Rick Roberts**, 138, Yoshimura, acquired the national junior welterweight title with a TKO over defending champion **Yoshihiro Yamamoto**, 140, with 53 seconds remaining in the sixth round of a scheduled 10. Roberts displayed a far better left hand, and ripped the left eye of the champion. The cut caused a stoppage of the one-sided affair. Roberts, who amazingly expressed his joy in Japanese (but not too clearly), upped to 7-1 (4). Yamamoto dropped to 8-2 (7).
(1-23-90)

KOREA

ULSAN—The undercard of the WBA super middleweight title bout between **In Chul Baek** and **Yoshiaki Tajima** was more interesting than the main event. Korean junior bantamweight champ Byung Kwan Chung, 115, retained the title by disposing of In Shik Kwak, 114½, at 2:13 of the seventh round in a scheduled 10. Chung is 19-6-3 (7). Kwak, the KBC's number 10 contender, fell to 4-16-2. Despite the challenger's inferior record, it didn't look like a mismatch.

Appearing for the first time since having been beaten by Marlon Starling, Yung Kil Chung, 154, displayed his superior punching power in demolishing Dae Hyun Yang, 153½, the KBC's number five junior middleweight contender, at 1:54 in the third session of a scheduled 10. Chung swarmed over his shorter and fading opponent. Yang was counted out. Chung is 28-5-2 (20). The Korean will remain in the 154-pound division.
(1-13-90)

INCHON—It was a card featuring three bouts of Koreans vs. Japanese. Prior to **Myung Woo Yuh's** rather easy 108-pound defense against **Hisashi Tokushima**, the supporting card also resulted in Korean warriors' victories.

Jun Sok Hwang, 156½, the WBA's number two junior middleweight, proved too powerful for southpaw Jiro Kashihara, 155, flattening him at 1:40 of the fourth round in a scheduled 10. Hwang countered with well-timed short rights, and sent his foe to the deck twice each in the third and fourth rounds. Hwang is 41-4 (30). Kashihara dropped to 9-5-3 (5).

Ju Sop Shin, the WBA's number five minimumweight, 106¾, ran his unbeaten log to 10-0 (6), as he finally caught Japanese footworker Noriaki Tanaka, 106, and halted him at 1:30 of the ninth of a scheduled 10-rounder. Shin couldn't show his usual zip, but he handled his fading rival with abundant stamina. Tanaka dropped to 8-6-2 (1).
(1-14-90)

SEOUL—In the semi-final of the WBC super flyweight title go between **Sung Kil Moon** and **Nana Konadu**, unbeaten Byung In Kang, 4-0 (4), 158½, overpowered Korean middleweight champion Chong Hwa Park, 7-5-1 (3), 158¾, dethroning him with a furious combination at 1:31 of the second round of a scheduled 10.
(1-20-90)

SEOUL—A pair of OPBF title bouts amazingly gathered just 300 spectators. The disappointingly small crowd was the result of this card being staged on the day after the Moon-Konadu title bout. But the fights were hot and interesting enough. **Yung Kyun Park**, 126¼, exchanged fierce rallies with champion **Jojo Cayson**, 125, the WBC's number seven contender, overpowered him with incessant attacks, and halted him at 1:35 of the eighth round of a scheduled 12 to become the champion. The lefty Cayson occasionally retaliated with devastating combinations, but Park was so tough in enduring the champion's attacks and fought back with stronger punches. The 23-year-old Park improved to 14-1-1 (8). Referee, Hiroyuki Tezaki.

In another 12-rounder, OPBF mini flyweight champion Hi Yong Choi, 105, proved too sharp, fast, and ringwise for Thai challenger Kom Sorthanikul, 104¼, dropping him thrice en route to a kayo win at 47 seconds of the fifth. Choi, the WBA's number three contender, possesses excellent speed and skill and will be good opposition for WBA champion Bong Jun Kim or WBC ruler Jum Hwan Choi. The OPBF champion is 6-0 (2).

Attendance: 300 (estimated)
(1-21-90)

PHILIPPINES

MANILA—Filipino junior featherweight champ **Ronnie Belaro**, 122, successfully kept the title by scoring an impressive knockout of **Emil Paquita**, 121½, at 1:30 of the third round in a scheduled 12. Belaro, a hard puncher, caught the top contender with a vicious short right to the chin, which flattened him. Belaro, 23, improved to 16-3-1 (14).

The semi-final saw Hilbert Aragon, the GAB's number three featherweight, awarded a split duke over Steve Nerza, 128, in 10 rounds. Aragon is 30-16-5 (15).
(1-13-90)

CEBU—A fast-rising prospect named **Ala Villamor**, 9-0 (8), showed his talents in scoring a TKO over formerly world-rated **Max Forrosuelo** at the end of the eighth round in a scheduled 10, mini flyweights.

At mini flyweight, Andy Tabanas, 7-0 (5), made short work of Ed Lucaban at 1:44 of the first session.
(1-13-90)

QUEZON CITY—**Rudy Cabiles**, 135, and **Leon Collins**, 133, battled to a split draw in a lightweight 10-rounder.

Jun Pastro, the GAB's number two junior welterweight, 146, chalked up a TKO over Pablo Manlangit, 145, at 1:58 of the second round of a scheduled 10.
(12-18-89)

DEBU—Former IBF junior flyweight and flyweight champion **Dodie Boy Penalosa** unleashed furious opening attacks and scored a TKO over Thai **Champ Kiatpetch** at 2:50 of the first round of a scheduled 10. After the first knockdown, Penalosa drove in a dozen unanswered punches. This caused the referee to intervene.
(12-22-89)

THAILAND

BANGKOK—Thai junior bantamweight champion **Sinthup Sorthanikul** failed to make the class limit and lost his crown on the scale prior to his scheduled title bout. But Sorthanikul defeated **Sombutr Easusampan**, the number three contender, by 10-round decision, and the national throne was left vacant. The winner moved up to the bantamweight division, and is rated at the top. He is 17-1 (6).
(12-21-89)

BANGKOK—Up-and-coming junior featherweight **Bangsaen Yodmuaydang**, 13-1 (10), appeared for the first time since his first setback, issued by world-rated Ruben Palacios last November, and was awarded a TKO over Filipino **Celso Aregio** midway through the seventh round. The winner, however, failed to display his vaunted punching power.
(12-24-89)

BANGKOK—Thai mini flyweight champion **Phalan Lukmingkwan**, 13-1 (6), easily disposed of **Thaveelert T. Boonlert**, the number seven junior flyweight, in the fourth round of a scheduled 10.
(12-28-89)

BANGKOK—Hard-punching Thai prospect **Torsak Osodsapha Pongsupa**, 9-1 (8), acquired the vacant WBC International super flyweight throne, as he scored a one-punch kayo over Filipino veteran **Dadoy Andujar** in the eighth round of a scheduled 12. Andujar, who had previously beaten current WBA bantamweight king Luisito Espinosa, aggressively attacked Pongsupa to win the second and fifth rounds. But Pongsupa showed his specialty, a lethal right, in the fatal session. Andujar sank for the count.

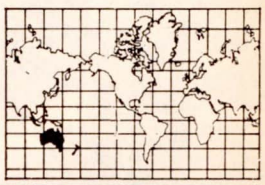
In the semifinal 10, WBC International featherweight champion Srikoon Narachawat, 16-0 (6), scored three standing counts against Filipino Robert Garcia and scored a fine kayo victory in the sixth round.
(12-29-89)

BANGKOK—Thai featherweight champion **Jimmy Sithphaidang** lost the national title on an upset decision to **Eak Donjadee**, 21-13 (12), in 10 rounds. Sithphaidang, a prohibitive favorite, had previously knocked out the challenger, and people expected this to be an easy defense. But Donjadee floored the champion in the third, and had him at bay in the following rounds. It was a one-sided affair. Sithphaidang, a stablemate of Khaosai and Kaokor Galaxy, might have been badly affected by the twin brothers' car accident last December. He didn't look in good shape.
(1-17-90)

BANGKOK—**Thanomsak Sithboabay**, 28-1 (14), the top junior bantamweight contender of the WBA and WBC, registered an impressive kayo over former OPBF junior flyweight ruler **Cho Woon Park** in the seventh round of a scheduled 10. The winner had the Korean on the deck with a vicious right in the fourth, and finished him with his favorite blow, a right uppercut, in the fatal session.
(1-20-90)

SAMRON—Thai junior featherweight champion **Noree Jockygym**, 29-8-1, looked very impressive, as he floored Korean **Yung Man Chun** with a well-timed straight right and halted him in the third round. The referee intervened to save the helpless loser.
(1-21-90)

Joe Koizumi



PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

BLACKTOWN—RSL Club—Australian **Guy Waters**, 174½, held the British Commonwealth light heavyweight title with a 12-round points decision over **Yawe Davis**, Uganda, 173¼, but the verdict astounded the crowd, even though it favored Waters. Each of the judges awarded Waters a one-point margin. *The Ring* saw Davis the winner, 119-111. The crowd, behind Waters from the start, had been shouting suggestions like, "You are allowed to hit him, Guy." When the decision was announced, there was silence of disbelief for a few seconds. Then the crowd erupted into hoots.

Waters boxed well below his normal standard. He was too tentative. However, his defense was good.

Rudy Darno, 228¼, outpointed Niko Degei, 258, via unanimous decision over eight rounds.

Mick King, 141, outpointed Simon Maidment, 141, over six rounds.

In another six, former amateur champion Brian Williams scored a technical points win over Brax Burley in round three, when the contest was stopped because Williams had a bad cut over one eye. The cut was ruled caused by an accidental head-clash. The referee originally ruled a draw, but the rule states a fight stopped before round three is a technical draw. Once the third round starts, whomever is ahead wins on points. So the decision was changed. Williams was 136¼, Burley 135.
(1-31-90)

BANKSTOWN—Sports Club—American **Jack Johnson**, who has been living in Australia for more than a year, outpointed **Steve Unterholtzer** over 10 rounds for the vacant New South Wales state heavyweight title. Johnson scaled 195¼, Unterholtzer, 193. It was an action-packed fight that excited the fans and drew a large shower of coins after the bout was over. Johnson would be ideal to play the part of the original Jack Johnson if a film of the "Dark Destroyer" were made today. He bears a striking resemblence.

In the main support, former Australian junior welterweight champion Pat Leglise, 134½, boxed brilliantly to outpoint Chris Dawe, 135, over 10 rounds. Each judge scored 99-93. This bout also received a shower of coins from the packed hall.

Paul Nasari, 133¼, drew with Steve Betts, 137¾ in a six-rounder.

Sam Gallace, 181¾, stopped Dom Domenico, 179½, at 45 seconds of the first round.

Kerry Spero, 194, took out Brad Aurisch, 187¼, in three rounds.

Promoter: Barry Rath
(2-7-90)

Ray Mitchell

Ali-Liston II

(Continued from page 38)

A suddenly pensive Ali is lifted by cornerman Bundini Brown. Trainer Angelo Dundee, Walcott (partially obstructed), and a dazed Liston exhibit a wide range of emotions. Immediately after the stoppage, fans rushed the ring and screamed, "Fake!" Repeated replays, however, showed that Ali did land a short right cross to challenger Liston's head.

where Ali and Liston had resumed trading blows, and lifted Ali's hand in triumph.

"He hit me with a right hand high on the left cheekbone," was Liston's explanation. "I've been hit harder by Cleveland Williams. I didn't quit. I just didn't get the count."

Screams of "Fake! Fake! Fake!" filled the arena. Infuriated heavyweight contender George Chuvalo rushed the ring, pushed Ali, and shouted fix, too.

Everyone had an opinion on what had happened. Chuvalo claimed that when Liston was down, his eyes were darting from side to side. "When a fighter is hurt," the heavyweight said, "his eyes roll up."

"Chuvalo is wrong," countered Dr. Carroll L. Witten, former Kentucky State Boxing Commissioner. "The side-to-side movement of eyes is commonly associated with temporary unconsciousness and is one of the first things you look for. It is called nystagmus."

Even the time of the stoppage became a point of controversy. It was originally reported as 1:00 of round one, but, after tapes were reviewed, changed to 1:54.

Contrary to popular belief, it was not the first time Liston had been felled. In April 1955, during his 10th pro bout, he was dropped by a counter right delivered by archrival Marty Marshall in the fifth round. Liston rose and stopped Marshall one round later.

Twenty-five years of hindsight seem to indicate that Ali-Liston II was legitimate, at least according to most of those who were at ringside. But at the time, not even Ali's salesmanship could soften the outrage. In Washington, Senator John Tower called for a Congressional investigation, and in Albany, New York, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Zaretzki introduced a bill to outlaw pro boxing in the state.

"The public has to be protected," he said.

No such bill, of course, was ever legislated. Ali returned six months later to defend against Floyd Patterson and continue his remarkable career. And Liston, who would subsequently engage in 16 low-profile bouts, quietly faded away.

And somehow, boxing survived. It always does. □

JOE SPINELLI

(Inspector General)

By Robert Cassidy

Hanging on the walls of Joe Spinelli's sixth-floor Park Avenue office are framed fight posters painted by LeRoy Neiman, and photographs of Spinelli with former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali. It is not the decor one would expect to find in the office of the first inspector general in New York State history. But part of Spinelli's agenda includes boxing. Plenty of boxing.

Spinelli, 40, has been a boxing fan ever since he was a young boy growing up in Astoria, New York. When he was six, his father, Tony, a former clubfighter, took him to Yankee Stadium to see the Rocky Marciano-Archie Moore heavyweight title fight.

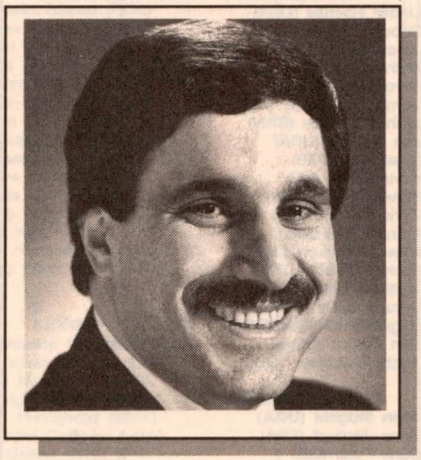
"One of the first things I ever got as a boy was boxing gloves," said Spinelli, who boxed as an amateur. "I got boxing gloves before I got a baseball glove, even though I wanted the baseball glove first."

Spinelli decided to fight for a living—in a matter of speaking. After graduating from John Marshall Law School in 1975, he was appointed a special agent of the FBI, and he began to fight crime.

Spinelli's affection for boxing has remained even after launching two investigations. In 1980, he investigated allegations of bribery and unethical behavior that stemmed from the scandal-ridden U.S. Boxing Championships. And in 1986, at the request of Governor Mario Cuomo, he investigated the New York State Athletic Commission.

Having been exposed to the ugly side of boxing, Spinelli has separated his professional experiences from his appreciation for the sport.

"What you have to do is turn your enthusiasm into something constructive," he said. "I learned more about the intricasies of boxing, the real intimate part that not many people know about."



What he learned was that boxing desperately needs major changes.

"You have professional baseball, football, all sports, regulated by one body," he said. "You have a commissioner, pension plans, rules, regulations. Boxing has nothing. Boxing has three rinky dink organizations. There should be one body that regulates boxing.

"The other thing I really get upset with are option contracts. They're nothing more than legalized extortion. You can't be champion of the world, no matter how good you are, unless you meet the condition precedent, that being, you give [a promoter] the right to promote your next 'X' amount of fights. That's extortion. He's telling you you can't make a living."

Spinelli has made his living by continually righting wrongs. In 1986, when Cuomo decided to appoint an inspector general to police all State agencies, Spinelli was the obvious choice.

"The word that comes to mind when I think of Joe Spinelli is integrity," said New York State Commissioner Randy Gordon. "He's a former FBI agent who's loaded with scruples and integrity. He loves the sport."

Spinelli enjoys boxing so much that when he attends a card, he purchases a ticket and sits in the cheap seats so he can concentrate on the fights.

"I don't like to be bothered when I watch fights," he explained.

Bother Spinelli for anything else that's boxing-related, however, and he'll gladly give his time. Spinelli personally spoke to police on behalf of Mark Breland after the fighter was questioned by police in a case of mistaken identity. He also visited the South Queens Boys and Girls Club in Jamaica, New York, when the club's directors were determined to close down the boxing program. Thanks primarily to Spinelli, the club's gym is still open to amateur boxers.

"I spoke on the merits of the program," Spinelli said. "And why it's necessary for programs like this to exist. With crack out on the streets, kids need a place now more than ever."

One fight Spinelli is determined to win is the fight against drugs. In 1988, with the full support of Cuomo, Spinelli initiated the Inspector General's Adopt-A-School Program. Spinelli visits various New York City grammar schools and lectures on the ills of drugs. Often accompanying Spinelli are local fighters. Among his regular speakers are Breland, Buddy McGirt, and Alex Stewart. He's also organized an anti-drugs "March of Champions" in which 14 current and former world titlists have participated.

"I think a lot of them come from the same streets and ghettos, and they realized how fortunate they were to get out," Spinelli said of the fighters. "Those who have come have left a tremendous impression of these kids."

It's Joe Spinelli's way of fighting crime before it exists. □

WBC WBA IBF
RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
James Douglas (USA)	C	4	C
Evander Holyfield (USA)	1	1	1
Mike Tyson (USA)	2	C	2
Razor Ruddock (CAN)	3	2	4
Michael Dokes (USA)	4	3	5
Gary Mason (GB)	5	6	6
Alex Stewart (JAM)	6	5	8
Tim Witherspoon (USA)	7	-	10
Adilson Rodrigues (BRA)	8	11	-
Renaldo Snipes (USA)	9	10	9
George Foreman (USA)	10	-	-
Jose Ribalta (USA)	11	8	11
Carl Williams (USA)	12	9	3
Orlin Norris (USA)	20	7	-
Frank Bruno (GB)	-	12	7

CRUISERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Carlos DeLeon (PR)	C	-	-
Anaclet Wamba (FRA)	1	2	3
Nate Miller (USA)	2	3	4
Dwight Muhammad Qawi (USA)	3	6	12
Angelo Rottoli (ITA)	4	11	-
Jose Flores (URU)	5	-	-
Johnny Nelson (GB)	6	-	-
Magna Havnaa (NOR)	7	-	-
Olian Alexander (USA)	8	10	-
Tyrone Booze (USA)	9	-	-
Sriki Sanogo (IC)	10	-	-
Robert Daniels (USA)	-	C	-
Glenn McCrory (GB)	-	-	C
Jeff Lampkin (USA)	-	4	1
Craig Bodzianowski (USA)	-	9	-
Leroy Murphy (USA)	-	-	5
Taoufik Belbouli (FRA)	-	1	-
Siza Makathini (SA)	-	-	2
Richard Mason (USA)	21	-	6
James Warring (USA)	17	5	7
Jose Burlon (URU)	-	7	-
Johnny Held (HOL)	-	8	-
James Pritchard (USA)	-	-	8
Iby Zimmerman (CAU)	-	-	9
Bash Ali (USA)	-	-	10

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)	C	-	-
Dennis Andries (GB)	1	1	-
Don Lalonde (CAN)	2	-	-
Guy Waters (AUSTRL)	3	3	3
Joe Lasisi (NIG)	4	11	4
Leslie Stewart (TRI)	5	-	-
Eric Nicoletta (FRA)	6	2	9
Mario Melo (ARG)	7	6	10
Graciano Rocchigiani (GER)	8	5	1
Yawe Davis (UGA)	9	-	-
Tom Collins (GB)	10	-	-
Mwehu Beya (ITA)	11	9	-
James Kinchen (USA)	12	-	5
Virgil Hill (USA)	-	C	-
Rodrigo Benech (URU)	25	-	2
Jean-Marie Emebe (CAM)	-	8	-
Mike Peak (USA)	-	4	-
Charles Williams (USA)	-	-	C
Freddie Delgado (PR)	-	-	6
Frankie Swindell (USA)	-	-	8
Anthony Hembrick (USA)	26	-	7
David Vedder (USA)	21	7	-
Rod Carr (AUSTRL)	-	10	-

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Ray Leonard (USA)	C	-	-
Chris Tiozzo (FRA)	1	1	3
Dario Matteoni (ARG)	2	5	12
Tony Byrd (USA)	3	4	7
Don Lee (USA)	4	9	-
Frank Winterstein (FRA)	5	-	-
Mauro Galvano (ITA)	6	-	10
Paul Muyodi (UGA)	7	-	-
Rod Carr (AUSTRL)	8	-	6
Juan Carlos Gimenez (PAR)	9	3	4
Frank Tate (USA)	10	-	1
Dan Morgan (USA)	19	8	-
Ron Essett (USA)	11	7	9
Victor Cordova (PAN)	16	2	-
In Chul Baek (KOR)	-	C	-
Paul Whittaker (USA)	17	6	-
Lindell Holmes (USA)	-	-	C
Thulani Malinga (USA)	-	-	2
Tyrone Frazier (USA)	23	10	5
John Jarvis (USA)	-	-	8

MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Lindell Holmes (USA)	1	-	-
Roberto Duran (PAN)	2	-	-
Julian Jackson (USA)	3	-	-
Michael Watson (GB)	4	1	1
Herol Graham (GB)	5	3	5
Sumbu Kalambay (ITA)	6	2	8
Michael Olajide (CAN)	7	-	-
Iran Barkley (USA)	8	7	6
Nigel Benn (GB)	9	4	3
Kevin Watts (US)	10	11	-
Steve Collins (USA)	11	5	-
Chris Eubank (GB)	12	8	-
Frank Winterstein	-	6	10
Mike McCallum (JAM)	-	C	-
Michael Nunn (USA)	-	-	C
Matthew Hilton (CAN)	23	-	7
Donald Curry (USA)	-	-	2
Reginald Johnson (USA)	-	9	4
Ron Collins (USA)	17	-	9
Adolfo Caballero (COL)	-	10	-

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
John Mugabi (UGA)	C	-	-
Rene Jacquot (FRA)	1	7	-
Chris Pyatt (GB)	2	5	6
Julio Cesar Vasquez (ARG)	3	3	-
Darrin Van Horn (USA)	4	8	1
Terry Norris (USA)	5	6	11
Troy Waters (AUSTRL)	6	-	5
Carlos Elliot (JAP)	7	1	-
Jun Suk Hwang (KOR)	8	2	-
Gilbert Dele (FRA)	9	4	7
Jorge Castro (ARG)	10	10	10
Julian Jackson (VI)	-	C	-
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	-	-	C
Arthur Serwano (USA)	13	-	4
Horacio Perez (COL)	18	9	-
Glenn Wolfe (USA)	19	-	2
Robert Hines (USA)	-	-	3
Miguel Arroyo (ARG)	28	-	9
Karama Leota (USA)	-	-	8

WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Marlon Starling (USA)	C	-	-
Maurice Blocker (USA)	1	2	-
Buddy McGirt (USA)	2	5	2
Lloyd Honeyghan (GB)	3	8	4
Aaron Davis (USA)	4	7	3
Tyrone Trice (USA)	5	-	1
Antoine Fernandez (FRA)	6	10	6
Glenwood Brown (USA)	7	4	5
Hiroyuki Yoshino (JAP)	8	12	11
Genaro Leon (MEX)	9	-	-
Luis Garcia (VEN)	10	1	10
Mark Breland (USA)	-	C	-
Simon Brown (USA)	-	-	C
Fujio Ozaki (JAP)	-	6	-
Engels Pedroza (VEN)	12	3	9
Jose Bermudez (COL)	11	9	-
Vincent Pettway (USA)	-	-	7
Tommy Ayers (USA)	20	-	8

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	C	-	-
Kyung Duk Ahn (KOR)	1	1	-
Roger Mayweather (USA)	2	-	6
Sammy Fuentes (PR)	3	-	-
Loreto Garza (USA)	4	5	2
Angel Hernandez (PR)	5	7	10
Mauricio Rodriguez (USA)	6	-	11
Alberto Cortes (ARG)	7	-	-
Rafael Pineda (COL)	8	4	3
Terrence Alli (GUY)	9	-	4
Efren Calamati (ITAL)	10	11	-
Mike Johnson (USA)	11	9	-
Juan M. Coggi (ARG)	-	C	-
Meldrick Taylor (USA)	-	-	C
Rodolfo Aguilar (PAN)	12	6	12
Akinobu Hiranaka (JAP)	13	2	-
Jose Luis Ramirez (MEX)	-	3	-
Louie Lomeli (USA)	-	-	1
Harold Brazier (USA)	14	-	5
Courtney Hooper (USA)	28	-	9
Ras-I-Bramble (USA)	-	8	8
Chi Mun Sil (KOR)	-	10	-
Santos Cardona (USA)	16	-	7

LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Pernell Whitaker (USA)	C	-	C
Chil Sung Chun (KOR)	1	3	-
Primo Ramos (MEX)	2	4	4
Poli Diaz (SPA)	3	5	3
Tracy Spann (USA)	4	7	1
Darryl Tyson (USA)	5	-	5
David Gonzales (USA)	6	6	9
Jose Luis Ramirez (MEX)	7	-	-
Mario Martinez (MEX)	8	-	-
Freddie Pendleton (USA)	9	-	2
Iwao Otomo (JAP)	10	10	8
Anthony Jones (USA)	11	8	-
Greg Haugen (USA)	13	-	6
Edwin Rosario (PR)	-	C	-
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	-	1	-
Juan Nazario (PR)	14	2	11
Tae Jin Moon (KOR)	15	9	-
John Duplessis (USA)	19	-	10
William Rojas (VEN)	-	11	7

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	C	-	-
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	1	-	-
Rodolfo Gomez (MEX)	2	-	-
Jim McDonnell (GB)	3	7	-
Tyrone Downes (TRIN)	4	4	-
Genaro Hernandez (US)	5	3	4
Tony Lopez (USA)	6	8	2
Rocky Lockridge (USA)	7	9	-
George Navarro (USA)	8	-	-
Juan LaPorte (PR)	9	-	-
Bernard Taylor (USA)	10	-	5
Lupe Suarez (USA)	11	-	9
Brian Mitchell (SA)	-	C	-
John Molina (USA)	-	-	C
Calvin Grove (USA)	19	-	6
Hengky Gun (INDO)	18	10	-
Jackie Beard (USA)	-	1	-
Anibal Nieves (VEN)	-	5	-
John Doherty (IRE)	-	6	-
Renato Cornett (AUST)	20	-	3
Renaldo Carter (USA)	-	2	10
Jorge Ramirez (MEX)	23	-	1
Joey Gamache (USA))	22	12	7
Frank Mitchell (USA)	-	-	8

FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Jeff Fenech (AUSTRL)	C	-	-
Marcos Villasana (MEX)	1	-	-
Chan Mok Park (KOR)	2	1	-
Paul Hodkinson (GB)	3	4	1
Ricardo Cepeda (USA)	4	8	4
Javier Marquez (MEX)	5	-	-
Rafael Zuniga (COL)	6	6	-
Victor Callejas (PR)	7	-	-
Yung Kyun Park (KOR)	8	-	-
Troy Dorsey (USA)	9	10	3
Takeyuki Akagi (JAP)	10	-	-
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	-	C	-
Jorge Paez (MEX)	-	-	C
Myron Taylor (USA)	13	-	2
Tom Johnson (USA)	18	5	-
Ryutaro Ueda (JAP)	-	2	-
Eloy Rojas (VEN)	-	3	-
Jorge Romero (MEX)	23	7	-
Park Yung Kyun (KOR)	-	9	-
Alfred Rangel (USA)	22	-	5
Lupe Gutierrez (USA)	19	12	6

NOTE: Because the WBA ratings for March did not arrive on time for press deadline, Buster Douglas, the undisputed heavyweight champion, is rated No. 4 by that organization.

WBC as of February
WBA as of February
IBF as of March

Harold Rhodes (USA)	12	-	7
Steve McCrory (USA)	-	-	8
Cedric Mingo (USA)	-	-	9
Stevie Cruz (USA)	11	-	10

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	C	-	-
Seung Hoon Lee (KOR)	1	10	-
Pedro Decima (ARG)	2	6	-
Paul Banke (USA)	3	7	-
Chan Young Park (KOR)	4	-	-
Tracy Patterson (USA)	5	-	8
Jesse Benavides (USA)	6	-	5
Noree Jockygym (THAI)	7	-	10
Luis Mendoza (COL)	8	1	-
Juan Jose Estrada (MEX)	9	5	9
Jae Won Choi (KOR)	10	11	-
Jesus Salud (USA)	-	C	-
Fabrice Benichou (FRA)	-	-	C
Carlos Uribe (CHIL)	12	8	-
Ruben Palacios (COL)	14	2	-
Naoto Takahashi (JAP)	15	3	-
Jose Sanabria (VEN)	17	4	2
Lee Ki Yun (KOR)	-	9	-
Welcome Ncita (SA)	-	-	1
Hurley Snead (USA)	-	-	3
Kelvin Seabrooks (USA)	-	-	4
Baby Rojas (USA)	-	-	6
Fransie Badenhorst (SA)	-	-	7

BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Raul Perez (MEX)	C	-	-
Hurley Snead (USA)	1	1	-
Chang Kyun Oh (KOR)	2	2	-
Gerardo Martinez (USA)	3	7	9
Pepillo Valdez (MEX)	4	5	2
Changuito Carmona (MEX)	5	-	-
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	6	6	-
Lupe Rubio (MEX)	7	-	-
Yong Hoon Lee (KOR)	8	9	-
Eun Sik Lee (KOR)	9	-	-
Joao Cardoso (BRA)	10	-	-
Luisito Espinosa (PHI)	-	C	-
Orlando Canizales (USA)	-	-	C
Ray Minus (BAH)	14	-	6
Billy Hardy (GB)	19	-	1
Duke McKenzie (GB)	16	-	3
Cesar Salas (VEN)	-	3	-
Paul Gonzalez (USA)	20	8	-
Greg Richardson (USA)	11	10	-
Eddie Rangel (USA)	-	-	4
Wilfredo Vasquez (PR)	-	-	5
Kaokor Galaxy (THAI)	23	4	12
Crusher Miura (JAP)	-	-	7
Alessandro DeSantis (ITA)	-	-	8
Wongso Indrajit (INDO)	-	-	10

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Sung Kil Moon (KOR)	C	2	-
Nana Konadu (GHA)	1	-	-
Thanomsak Sithbaobey (THAI)	2	1	-
Shunichi Nakajima (JAP)	3	4	-
Gilberto Roman (MEX)	4	5	4
Ellyas Pical (INDO)	5	-	10
Elvis Alvarez (COL)	6	-	-
Cesar Polanco (DR)	7	9	-
Carlos Mercado (COL)	8	12	2
Santos Laciar (ARG)	9	8	-
Roberto Quiroga (USA)	10	10	1
Khaosai Galaxy (THAI)	-	C	-
Juan Polo (COL)	-	-	C
Kenji Matsumura (JAP)	-	6	-
Ernesto Ford (PAN)	22	3	-
Ray Medel (USA)	16	-	-
Rey Paciones (PHI)	-	-	3
Cobra Ari Blanca (PHIL)	19	7	7
Sitoshi Shingaki (JAP)	-	-	5
Daorung Chuwatana (THAI)	-	-	6
Peter Mitrevski (AUSTRL)	-	-	8
Jaja Shibali (SA)	-	-	9

FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Sot Chitalada (THAI)	C	-	-
Richard Clarke (JAM)	1	-	2
Jung Koo Chang (KOR)	2	-	-
Yul Woo Lee (KOR)	3	4	-
Javier Lucas (MEX)	4	-	7
Yong Kang Kim (KOR)	5	7	-
Leopard Tamakuma (JAP)	6	2	5
Romy Navarette (PHIL)	7	-	11
Claudemir Dias (BRA)	8	-	-
Rodolfo Blanco (COL)	9	6	1
Isaias Zamudio (MEX)	10	-	-
Fidel Bassa (ARG)	-	1	4
Elvis Alvarez (COL)	-	3	-
Kotaro Hayashi (JAP)	26	5	-
Julio Gudino (PAN)	-	8	-
Eyup Can (TUR)	12	11	10
Yunun Chin (KOR)	13	9	-
Jesus Rojas (VEN)	-	C	-
Dave McAuley (IRE)	-	-	C
Louis Curtis (USA)	-	-	3
Dodi Penalosa (PHIL)	17	-	6
Joe Kelly (GB)	-	-	8
Ole Kietoneway (THAI)	-	-	9
Sing Singchatura (THAI)	-	10	12

LIGHT FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Humberto Gonzalez (MEX)	C	-	-
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	1	2	1
Luis Monzote (CUBA)	2	7	-
Jeung Keun Lim (JAP)	3	3	-
Rey Hernandez (MEX)	4	-	-
Michael Carbajal (USA)	5	-	2
Ali Galvez (CHI)	6	11	-
Abdi Pohan (IND)	7	-	-
Leon Salazar (PAN)	8	4	7
Katzumi Komiyama (JAP)	9	8	-
Hiroki Ioka (JAP)	10	-	-
Yuh Myung Woo (KOR)	-	C	-
Tacy Macalos (PHIL)	12	-	4
Leo Gamez (VEN)	17	1	8
Kajkong Danphoothai (THAI)	-	5	-
Kimio Hirano (JAP)	18	6	-
Jose Lagos (ARG)	-	9	-
Hector Patri (ARG)	-	10	-
Muangshai Kittikasem (THAI)	-	-	C
Silverio Barcenas (PAN)	-	-	3
Gonzalo Villalobos (MEX)	-	-	5
Javier Diaz (MEX)	-	-	6
Mario DeMarco (ARG)	-	-	9
Gerry Penalosa (PHIL)	-	-	10

STRAWWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Hideyuki Ohashi (JAP)	C	1	12
Kyung Yung Lee (KOR)	1	-	-
Pretty Boy Lucas (PHIL)	2	3	1
Napa Kiatwanchai (THA)	3	-	6
Hector Patri (ARG)	4	-	-
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	5	-	3
Hiyong Choi (KOR)	6	4	-
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	7	2	10
Jeum Hwan Choi (KOR)	8	-	-
Santiago Mendez (MEX)	9	-	11
Javier Varguez (MEX)	10	-	-
Bong Jun Kim (KOR)	-	C	-
Far-Lan Lookmingkwan (THAI)	16	-	C
Samjoong Lee (KOR)	11	7	-
Joo Sup Shin (KOR)	26	5	-
Danny Nunez (DR)	30	6	-
Silverio Barcenas (PAN)	13	8	-
Nico Thomas (INDO)	19	9	-
Petchai Chuvatana (THAI)	-	10	-
Eric Chavez (PHIL)	-	-	4
Luis Monzote (USA)	-	-	2
Francisco Montiel (MEX)	-	-	5
Joe Constantino (RP)	-	-	7
Marcario Santos (MEX)	-	-	8
Abdi Pohan (INDO)	-	-	9

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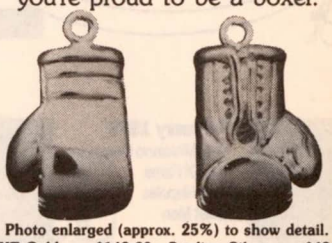

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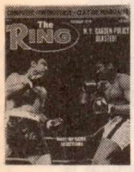
The RING '70s

The 1970s is best known as the decade of Muhammad Ali and the heavyweights. But the '70s was also the decade of Carlos Monzon, Roberto Duran, Jose Napoles, and some exceptional light heavyweights. The Ring, of course, was at ringside to cover it all. Limited supplies of the following issues are available for $10 each (including postage and handling).



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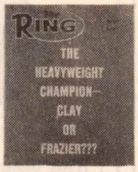
Clay-Marciano Computer
Hall Of Fame
Jose Napoles
Quiet Men



May 1970
Ring Strips Clay!
Joe Frazier
Ruben Olivares
Ken Norton

October 1970
Jack Johnson
Peter Porter
Emile Griffith
Liston-Wepner

July 1971
Foreman Next Champ?
Cassius Clay
105 Rounds Of Mayhem
Ruben Olivares
Nicolino Loche

August 1971
Heavyweight Knockouts
Chamberlain-Clay
Rocky Marciano
El Famoso Gomez

November 1971
Cus D'Amato
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Ezzard Charles
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Ken Buchanan
Carlos Monzon
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Roberto Duran
Ray Lampkin

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Jack Sharkey
Ernie Terrell
Lyle-Mathis

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Foreman: Kayo King
Hedgemon Lewis
John Conteh
Muhammad Ali
Russell Peltz

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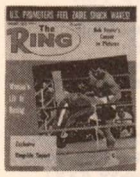
Who Gets Next
Heavyweight Shot?
Bobby Chacon
George Foreman
Ali's Farewell
Bob Foster



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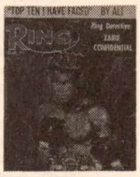
Bob Foster
Monzon-Mundine
Oscar Alvarado
John Conteh



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Mike Rossman
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John Stracey

April 1975
Whatever Happened
To Joe Frazier?
Chuck Wepner
Dick Tiger
Joe Louis
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Bob Foster
Roberto Duran
Chacon-Olivares
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Carlos Monzon Retires
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MILLS BREAKS THE ICE

From The Ring, October 1948

By Nat Fleischer

England finally gained a firm hold on a world title in the upper brackets when Freddie Mills, cruiserweight champion of the British Empire, carried off honors by winning a 15-round decision for the world light heavyweight championship vs. Gus Lesnevich before a sellout crowd of over 46,000 at the White City Stadium in London. With the exception of the flyweight division, it was the first world championship gained by a British subject since Ted "Kid" Lewis held the welterweight diadem in 1919. (When Bob Fitzsimmons won the light heavyweight title from George Gardner, he was an American citizen.)

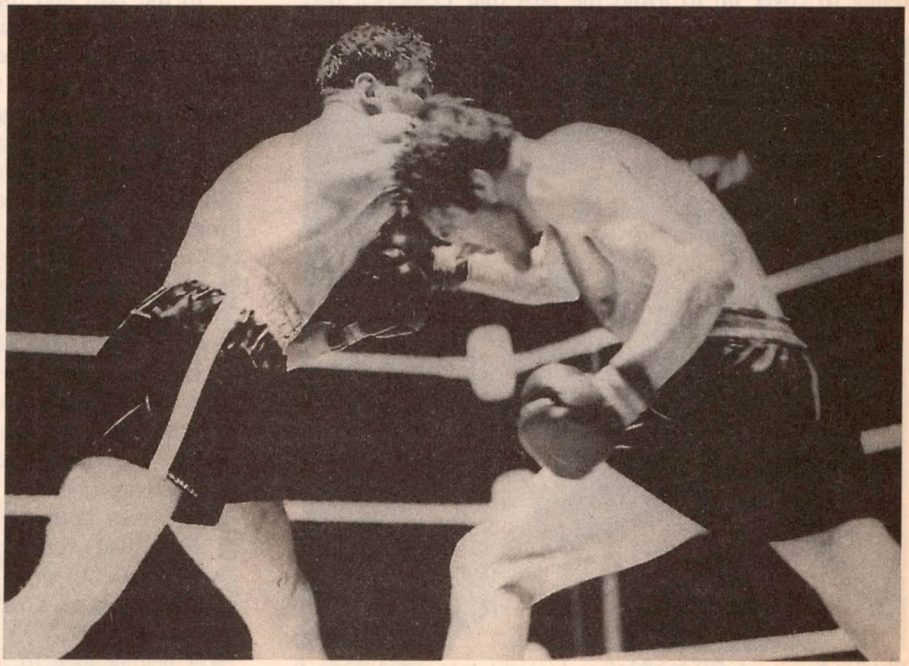
Mills' triumph was by a small margin. Two knockdowns in the 10th round and a whirlwind finish in the last two sessions were the deciding factors. It was so close a tilt that the decision could have been given either way, and even a draw would not have been amiss.

As a contest, it lacked the thrills of their previous engagement (Lesnevich halted Mills in the 10th round in 1946) and proved a keen disappointment to the majority of the fans. The result was a shock even to Freddie's British admirers, who, almost to a man, had expected Lesnevich to dispose of the challenger by knockout. In fact, the bulk of the wagering—and it was a heavily bet contest—was placed on the number of rounds that the British Empire king would remain standing before being halted by the defending titleholder.

Though Eddie Borden, a member of *The Ring* staff, thought that Lesnevich had won by a good margin, and Col. Eddie Eagan (Chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission) and Gene Tunney favored Gus at the finish, my scorecard gave it to Mills by a margin of a point, based on the British scoring system. On rounds won, I had Lesnevich ahead by one round. Had the fight taken place in New York, Gus would have been declared the victor because he was the sharper hitter, the aggressor, and his jabs landed more frequently than did those of his opponent.

The victory of Mills was one of the biggest upsets of the year. The odds at fight time favored Gus, 4-1. But the former carnival plugger, thought washed up a year ago when he was stopped by Lloyd Marshall in five rounds, fooled everyone by adopting a style that prevented Gus' lethal wallops from landing on a vital spot; Mills' broad shoulders protected his chin in a manner that made it impossible for Lesnevich to strike the jaw.

When referee Teddy Waltham quickly raised the hand of Mills, designating him the winner, an elated British gathering cheered as they haven't had a chance to do in many years. With Waltham's gesture went the hopes of Lesnevich fighting Joe Louis in September for the heavy-



Slipping a right, British challenger Freddie Mills lands a counter body blow during his July 1948 rumble with light heavyweight king Gus Lesnevich. Lesnevich outjabbed Mills, but the challenger protected his jaw and negated the American's powerpunches. Lesnevich answered the opening bell as a 4-1 favorite.

weight crown. To the victor belongs the spoils, and now Mills is in the big money, as he deserves to be.

Though the bout was a dull contest most of the way, the sellout crowd found sufficient excitement in the thrilling 10th round and at the finish to offset the dreary minutes of the other sessions. There was so little action at times that the referee twice halted the bout to warn the contestants that unless they performed in a manner befitting a championship fight, he would stop the affair. Whether he was justified in this procedure is open to discussion.

According to Lesnevich, he was doing his best to find an opening by boxing his opponent, and prior to the first warning from the referee, he had actually gained four rounds in a row on points. Waltham acted in response to catcalls from the bleacherites who demanded more fighting and less sparring.

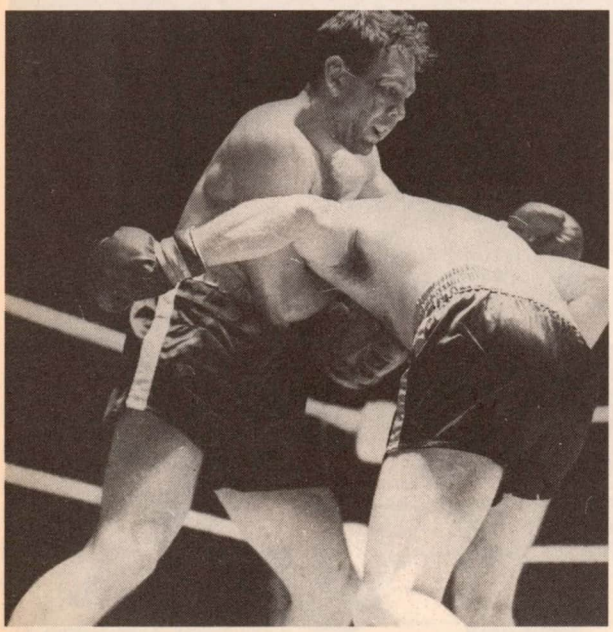
Gus blamed his defeat on Waltham, whose warnings, he declared, put him out of gear and disconcerted him to such an extent that he couldn't get into stride again. But Gus must remember that Waltham directed his warnings against Mills as much as he did against the champion.

As in the bout between Joe Walcott and Joe Louis, in which Jersey Joe was kayoed in the 11th, only the round in which the knockdowns took place highlighted the show. The sudden explosion in the 10th came so unexpectedly that even Mills had a look of surprise on his face as he dropped the champ to the canvas with a clublike right followed by a left to the jaw.

Bedlam suddenly broke loose in the arena as a shouting, hand-clapping throng cheered the Englishman's feat. The crowd was on its feet yelling for a knockout.

Gus got off the floor at four, but went down again to remain for a full nine. When he arose, he faced a wild-eyed, charging opponent eager for the kill. Gus was hurt. The spectators could see that, and Mills likewise sensed it. Now he had the upper hand, and he would take advantage of it.

The crowd had been clamoring for action and Mills was now supplying it with a vengeance. No longer was he trying to cover up to avoid the jabs that Lesnevich had been shooting his way. From the bleachers, those jabs might have appeared as extremely light taps. But they carried considerable sting, Mills later admitted.



Bleeding from a cut over his right eye, Lesnevich holds off the surging Mills in the later rounds. Mills scored two knockdowns, but couldn't land the finishing blow, and the decision seemed a close one.

No sooner did the American get to his feet than four clubbing hooks downed him again. Again Gus decided to take the nine count, this time resting on his knee, eyeing the timer. At the toll of nine he was ready to spring up to resume the battle. But he didn't do so immediately. He hesitated, and during the hesitation, both referee and timer failed to continue the count. This subsequently brought a squawk from Ted Broadribb, the manager of Mills, and from several British scribes who insisted that had the count continued at the normal rate, Gus would not have beaten the 10th stroke, and thus Mills would have won by knockout.

With only a few more seconds to go in the round, Mills set sail at a whirlwind pace to end matters. But he was wild, and Gus, having regained his equilibrium, jarred Freddie with two left hooks and weathered the storm.

It seemed to all that in the following rounds Gus would be easy prey for the challenger, but the courage and fighting heart that had gained for Lesnevich a world crown and an international reputation as one of the best fighters in his division in recent years, put Freddie back in the 11th and 12th rounds to where he had been prior to the knockdowns. Mills wavered instead of steadying himself and tossing all he had at the man whom he had almost knocked out. This gave Gus a chance not only to stay on his feet unhurt during these two sessions, but actually to win each by a fair margin. His rally enabled him to take the lead again, and his backers had high hopes that by continuing this rally, he might catch the eye of Waltham.

But this he failed to do. Though never again in danger, he didn't have left what it took to make a grand winning finish. The tough time he had in making the weight, his age, the remarks of Waltham that had upset him, and the knockdowns he suffered in that 10th round, had all taken their toll. Added together, they spelled defeat for the champ.

In the 12th and the early part of the 13th, Gus jarred Mills several times with jolting lefts that stirred up some hand clapping. The only effective blow landed by Mills was a left chop to the forehead that sent Gus reeling backward, but he quickly recovered. Covering up well, Lesnevich prevented another knockdown.

Mills gained a slight shade in the 14th, then Gus went all out in the final round, realizing fully that he had to win by a big margin to offset the effects of the knockdowns. Mills likewise was savagely aiming for the same goal—to carry off the 15th—and he succeeded. With that triumph he gained the decision of the referee, who, according to British rules, is the sole judge of a fight.

Lesnevich was severely handicapped from the start by cuts over both his eyes. A wild sucker punch caught him on the right eye exactly 20 seconds after the fight got underway, and 30 seconds later, another left opened a wound over his left eye. Henceforth, the claret flowed freely from both cuts.

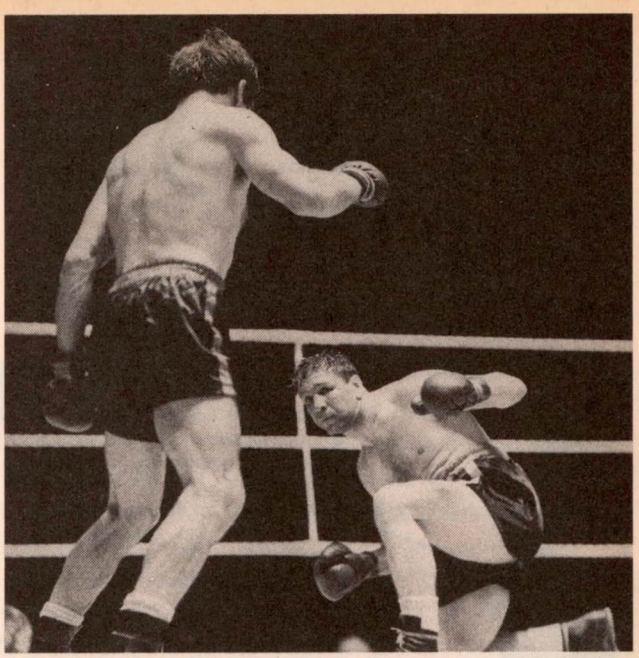
With two bad eyes and having been weakened by weight-making which had brought him into the ring considerably drawn, Gus' judgment of distance was on many occasions exceedingly poor. The strong, sturdy champion was neither able to hit with his known effectiveness nor with the sharpness displayed so often in his previous battles.

An hour and a half before the weigh-in time, Lesnevich walked around Hyde Park under a broiling sun to take off 1¼ pounds; during his training period, he had to drop almost 11 pounds in all. When he got on the scale, he was 174¾, a quarter-pound under the light heavyweight limit. Perhaps as a heavyweight, Gus will fit in nicely in the scramble for Joe Louis' title because he won't have to reduce.

Because of Lesnevich's difficulty in making weight, he will find Freddie with a horde of supporters in the betting should they meet for a third time. Mills is not a boxer who carries finesse in his makeup. He is a tough customer with a hefty left wallop that comes down with a chop. He is not an easy man to down, and, to regain his crown, Lesnevich will have to be better than he was in London. What I fear most is that a heavy facial attack by Mills may reopen the old cuts and again give Gus a disastrous start.

Mills, the new champion, has not been favored with a bed of roses since joining the professional ranks. He has had an up-and-down career, though he stands today as the outstanding pugilist in the British Empire. He has not an unbeaten record nor anything resembling such, but whoever defeated him found the going pretty tough. Mills has not been a meteoric rise to fame and fortune, though he has been close to the top or on top many times during his 13 years of fighting.

In his two contests with Lesnevich, he typified the courage and spirit of the British. In both bouts he showed dogged determination to carry through, and it was that spirit that finally won for him the title.



Mills-Lesnevich was an uneventful affair until the defending champion fell twice in round 10. The clever Lesnevich held on to finish on his feet.

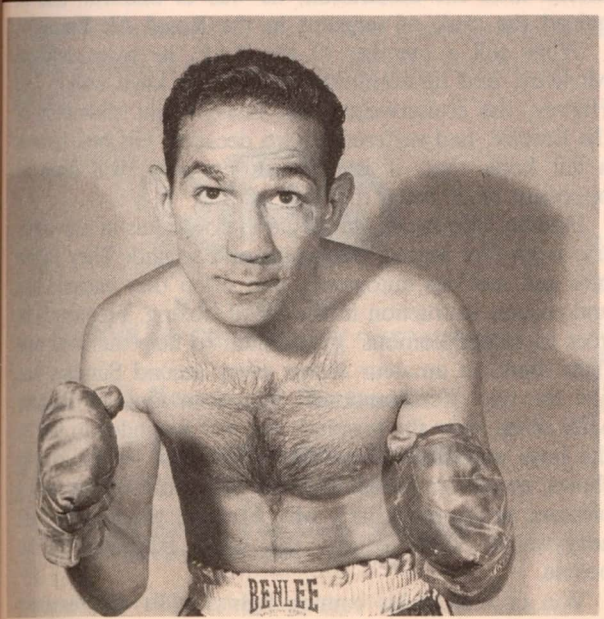
THE RING RATINGS, *October 1948*

HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Joe Louis
1. Joe Walcott
2. Lee Savold
3. Rusty Payne
4. Colion Chaney
5. Joey Maxim
6. Curtis Sheppard
7. Jo Weidin
8. Melio Bettina
9. Jimmy Bivins
10. Johnny Flynn

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Freddie Mills
1. Ezzard Charles
2. Gus Lesnevich
3. Leonard Morrow
4. Dave Sands
5. Archie Moore
6. Lloyd Marshall
7. Tommy Yarosz
8. Bob Satterfield
9. Pat McCafferty
10. Nick Barone

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champ: Tony Zale
1. Marcel Cerdan
2. Bert Lytell
3. Jose Basora
4. Rocky Graziano
5. Jake LaMotta
6. Robert Villemain
7. Cyrille Delannoit
8. Dick Turpin
9. Steve Belloise
10. Lee Sala

FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Willie Pep
1. Chico Rosa
2. Sandy Saddler
3. Ray Famechon
4. Carlos Chavez
5. Charlie Riley
6. Miguel Acevedo
7. Jackie Graves
8. Elis Ask
9. Eddie Miller
10. Jimmy McAllister



Featherweight champion Willie Pep

WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Ray Robinson
1. Bernard Docusen
2. Doug Ratford
3. Kid Gavilan
4. Johnny Greco
5. Tippy Larkin
6. Frankie Fernandez
7. Johnny Cesario
8. Eddie Thomas
9. Henry Hall
10. Bee Bee Wright

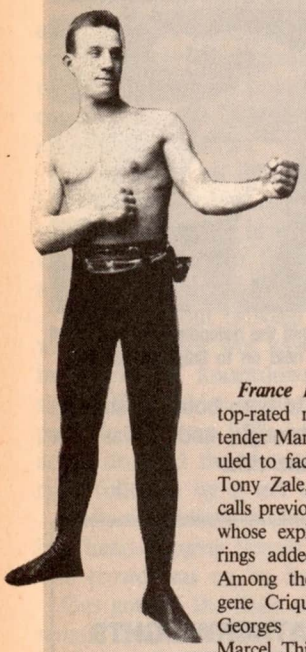
BANTAMWEIGHTS
World Champ: Manuel Ortiz
1. Guido Ferracin
2. Luis Galvani
3. Stan Rowan
4. David Kui Kong Young
5. Elley Bennett
6. Theo Medina
7. Luis Romero
8. Peter Kane
9. Fernando Gagnon
10. Danny O'Sullivan

LIGHTWEIGHTS
World Champ: Ike Williams
1. Enrique Bolanos
2. Jesse Flores
3. Maxie Docusen
4. Johnny Williams
5. Tommy Campbell
6. Paddy DeMarco
7. Andre Famechon
8. Paulino Montes
9. Buddy Garcia
10. Freddie Dawson

FLYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Rinty Monaghan
1. Maurice Sandeyron
2. Dickie O'Sullivan
3. Dado Marino
4. Monito Flores
5. Louis Skena
6. Emile Famechon
7. Charlie Squire
8. Al Chavez
9. Mickey Hill
10. Luis Fuentes

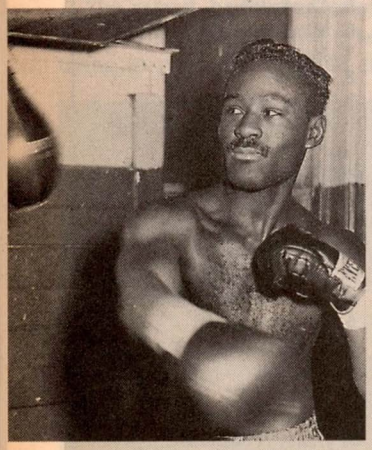
THE RING, October 1948

The Cover: After the retirement of heavyweight king Joe Louis, *The Ring* proves prophetic in asking whether Louis, like Jim Jeffries 40 years before, will make an unsuccessful comeback. Louis, of course, did return to the ring, and was beaten by Ezzard Charles, and then Rocky Marciano.



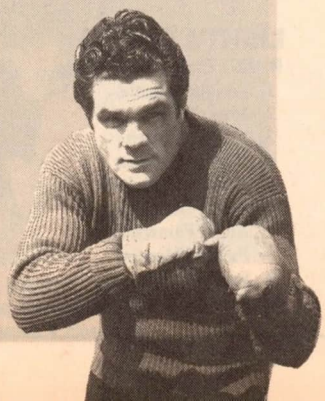
Death Of A Legend: August 1948 saw the passing of former welterweight and middleweight champion Tommy Ryan. Among the most clever boxers at the turn of the century, Ryan was considered by contemporaries like Jim Jeffries, Jim Corbett, and Bob Fitzsimmons to be the best all-around fighter of his era.

France Bids Again: With top-rated middleweight contender Marcel Cerdan scheduled to face 160-pound king Tony Zale, Jersey Jones recalls previous French fighters whose exploits in American rings added to their luster. Among those featured: Eugene Criqui, Andre Routis, Georges Carpentier, and Marcel Thil (pictured).



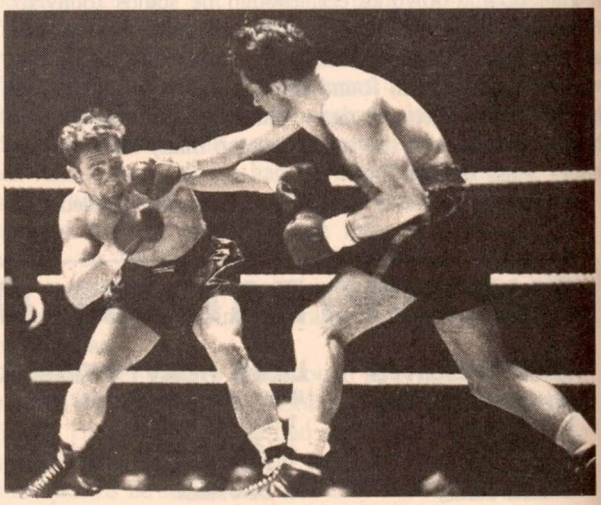
Nat Fleischer Says: In his column, the editor of *The Ring* points to Ezzard Charles (pictured) as the likely successor to retiring heavyweight king Joe Louis. But, Fleischer warns, the next champion should be crowned in an elimination tournament. "The time is past," Fleischer writes, "when American promoters or boxing commissioners can dictate to the world and get away with it." Wonder what Fleischer would've thought of Don King.

Fighter Of The Month: British light heavyweight Freddie Mills is awarded for his title-fight upset of defending champion Gus Lesnevich. Mills, a veteran campaigner, had been a 4-1 underdog, primarily because Lesnevich had topped him via 10th-round stoppage in May 1946. But Mills would lose the crown in his first defense, against Joey Maxim in January 1950.



Stocky, square-jawed, likeable, 29-year-old Freddie is far from being classed among the greats of pugilism, but he has what it takes to make the fight fans like him. A cheerful, easy-going fellow, he makes friends readily and retains them. When he came to America for the second Louis-Conn fight, I had him at my summer home on Long Island, and he was the life of the party, which included many British scribes.

He is a graduate of the British boxing booths, and shortly after he tossed his lot with the big fellows, he faced some of the toughest opposition the British could give him in Jock McAvoy, Len Harvey, and Ginger Saad, among other skillful battlers. In manager Broadribb, who is shortly to become his father-in-law, Mills had an expert tutor in boxing from the start. "Snowball," as Ted was known when he fought in America many years ago, is a keen student of the fight game, and he's guided Mills from nowhere to a world title. He almost succeeded in doing the same with Tommy Farr, who, it will be recalled, gave Joe Louis the toughest battle of his career.



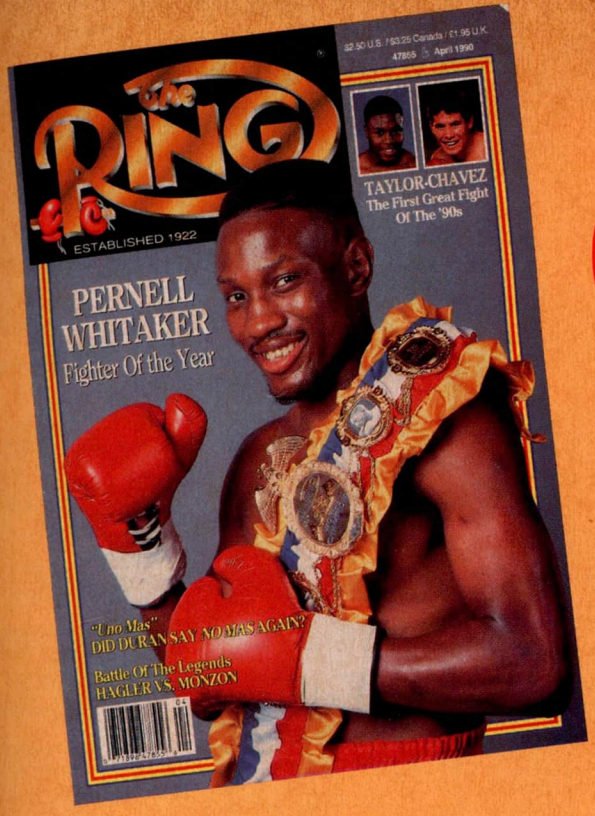
In their first meeting, in May 1946, Lesnevich scored a 10th-round stoppage of Mills. After losing the rematch, Lesnevich fought only three more times. His last bout was a loss to heavyweight king Ezzard Charles.

When war broke out, Mills was among the early ones to enlist to fight Hitler and his mobsters. Less than a month after the declaration, he was in uniform, and he gained the rank of sergeant in the Royal Air Force.

While still a member of the RAF, he twice defeated McAvoy, and he administered the first kayo wallop Len Harvey, the cruiserweight and heavyweight champion of the Empire, had suffered in two decades. His best blow is a left hook that, if it connects properly, will drop an opponent as it twice did Gus.

Freddie, like Jack Dempsey and Joe Louis in our country, is an idol among the youth of England. They follow him and seek his autograph, and often they encircle him and request instruction in the art of boxing. Frequently he goes to Jack Solomons' gymnasium to help the boys who fight there on amateur shows every second Sunday, and like the two aforementioned American idols of fistiana, Mills often visits the hospitals for war wounded to talk to the boys and cheer them with ring tales. As for charity shows, he seldom misses any. He offers his services with a pleasant smile, and that's why Freddie, the world's light heavyweight king, enjoys the good fellowshp of his people.

Win or lose in his coming fights, Mills will remain a British idol. □



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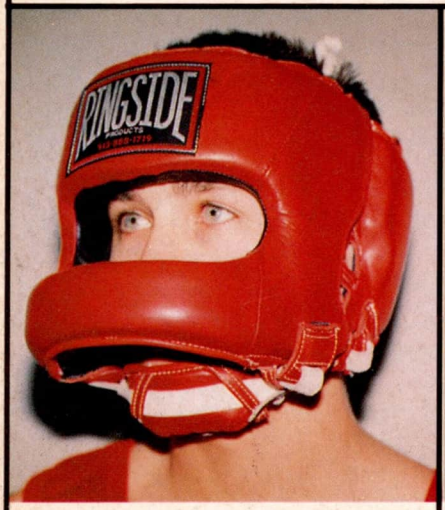

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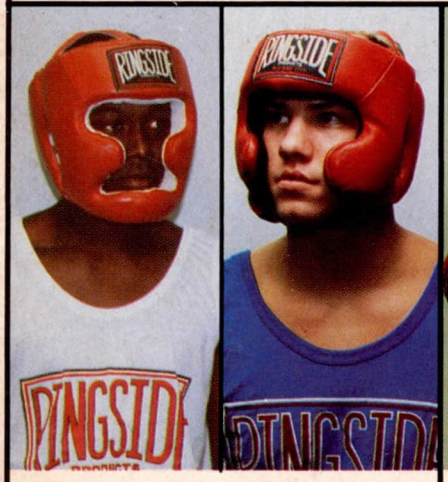

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